

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3236.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1889.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

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the admiring fondness of all about him, and with an ignorance of the measure applied by public opinion to the tricks and plots for which he had by nature a strong propensity. Intellectually, on the other hand, his secluded education was not without its advantages."

An interesting account is given by the biographer of the boy's early poetical development. His apprenticeship to the technical portion of the art of which he afterwards gained such a mastery was long and laborious. Unlike most aspirants for literary fame, he soon perceived that his efforts at original composition were worthless, and he resolved to improve himself by translating the works of some of the Latin poets. "My first taking to imitating," he says, "was not out of vanity, but humility: I saw how defective my own things were, and endeavoured to mend my manner by copying good strokes from others." This method produced satisfactory results. "By constantly seeking English equivalents for Latin idioms," writes Mr. Courthope, "he found out many subtle secrets of harmony in his mother tongue, so that afterwards, when he formed really original conceptions, he had no difficulty in clothing them in musical language."

Pope, as we know from his own evidence, selected Dryden as his model in versification, but "what he learned from Dryden in versification was the art of expressing the social and conversational idiom of the language in a metrical form. His conception of metrical harmony was, however, altogether different from his professed master's, and rather resembled that of Sandys." Another and more important difference, pointed out here, between Pope's early translations and those of Dryden is that the former endeavoured only to attain the style of his models; the latter was anxious to catch their spirit.

Pope's system of versification was certainly more exact than any conceived by other poets of his day. In a letter to Henry Cromwell (November 25th, 1710) Pope explains the metrical laws which he considered should be followed by an English poet. There are six rules in this code, and their minute directions were certainly not observed, or perhaps even acknowledged, by Dryden, and the lawgiver himself occasionally neglected his own precepts.

The 'Essay on Criticism' appeared in 1711. As is the case with all Pope's early writings, it is not easy to ascertain the exact date of its composition, but it was probably completed and brought into its present shape two years earlier. The most extraordinary circumstance connected with the 'Essay' appears to us to be the author's choice of a subject. Horace is supposed to have been about fifty when he wrote the 'Ars Poetica.' Boileau was close on forty when he published 'L'Art Poétique,' and had already gained an immense reputation. But it must have required an overwhelming confidence in his own powers for a beginner in his twenty-fourth year, and morbidly anxious for fame, to take as the theme of the second work he published a didactic subject which few in those days cared for or understood. "Up to that moment," Mr. Courthope writes, "it may be said that the art of Criticism was not in existence in England."

On its appearance the work attracted little observation. The first public notice of the 'Essay on Criticism' was in an abusive pamphlet by Dennis, whose character had been too faithfully portrayed in four well-known lines, which contained, moreover, an allusion to one of his unsuccessful tragedies. At length the *Spectator* brought out a flattering review, not without some accents of "faint praise," written by Addison. Pope was highly pleased at this notice, and before long the poem had gained that enthusiastic admiration which it retained throughout the eighteenth century. There is no question that the 'Essay' no longer maintains its former high reputation, and Mr. Leslie Stephen seems to think that one of its chief merits is "coining aphorisms out of commonplace." Mr. Courthope defends the poem from its modern detractors with considerable vigour and ability, and we shall endeavour to give the substance of his views on the subject.

It is not easy to define precisely the system which is laid down in the 'Essay,' but Mr. Courthope considers that

"three main principles underlie Pope's reasoning: (1) That all sound judgment and true 'wit' is founded on the observation of Nature; (2) that false 'wit' arises from disregard of Nature and an excessive affection for the conceptions of the mind; (3) that the true standard for determining what is 'natural' in poetry is to be found in the best works of the ancients."

Presuming that this analysis is correct, it is obvious that the justness of these three principles depends very much on the significance attached to the words "wit" and "nature." It is happily suggested by Mr. Courthope that Pope uses the word "nature" in the same sense as Shakspeare in 'Hamlet' when he speaks of "holding the mirror up to nature." It is more difficult to define the exact meaning which Pope attaches to "wit," a word used by him in so many different significations. Mr. Courthope thinks that Pope would have no difficulty in accepting the distinction drawn between wit and judgment by Locke, who speaks of "wit lying most in the assemblage of ideas, and putting these together with quickness and variety." We should like also to suggest that Pope's general meaning when he talks of "wit" is to some extent explained by the employment of the word in the famous definition of a proverb as "the wisdom of many, the wit of one." Another pertinent remark by Mr. Courthope is that "what Pope held to be the just method of conception is indicated in the 'Essay on Criticism' by a word which is used almost as prominently as the words 'wit' and 'nature.' This word is "sense," which is almost always employed, we are told, as the correlative of "wit." Such very briefly are the outlines of Pope's system, as explained by Mr. Courthope's analysis. It is impossible to deny that the 'Essay' has striking merits, but it has always appeared strange to us that in a didactic poem written for the instruction of poets and critics there should be less attention to "correctness" than in any other production of the author.

In the meanwhile Pope had formed a tolerably large circle of friends in the neighbourhood of his home at Binfield, and he was a frequent visitor at Mapledurham,

where he became intimate with Martha and Teresa Blount, who were to exercise so much influence on his life. Mr. Courthope has mistaken the character of Teresa, the elder of the sisters. He speaks of her "lofty and adventurous spirit," of "her strong vein of devotion," and he calls her "haughty and capricious." Swift, speaking from personal acquaintance, describes her as the "sanctified Teresa." Her "strong vein of devotion" consisted, in fact, of an immense respect for public opinion, and if she had been as haughty as Mr. Courthope imagines, she would scarcely have accepted a pension from Pope. No one, however, can deny her keen sense of humour, and if the two letters in the British Museum, written by her to Lady Coningsby, may be taken as a fair sample of her style, she was certainly an amusing correspondent, though her gossip was not very refined or good-natured. Martha Blount was, both in appearance and character, a striking contrast to her sister. Frank, honest, and impulsive, she cared little for the world's opinion. From the circumstances of her life she was obliged to be rather exacting with those who might, perhaps, misunderstand her position, but her cheerful temper and genuine good qualities made her a delightful companion. Her long friendship with Pope was the brightest chapter in his life, and during his last illness it is said that "Mrs. Blount's coming in gave a new turn of spirits or a temporary strength to him."

There were other acquaintances made by Pope when living at Binfield from whom he would hear more of literature and gain more worldly knowledge than from the county families in the neighbourhood. He was intimate with Sir William Trumbull, a retired diplomatist, and with Henry Cromwell, a gentleman of dissolute habits, but with some pretensions to literature, whose peculiarities of dress and appearance made a great impression on his contemporaries. One of the most useful of Pope's early friends was undoubtedly William Walsh, considered the best critic of his day, and from him the poet acquired that passion for "correctness" (a term invented by Walsh himself in the sense here alluded to) which is one of the characteristics of his work.

The first man of eminence with whom Pope associated on familiar terms was Wycherley, who had for more than a quarter of a century ceased writing for the stage, but his reputation was still high, and among the dramatists then living his only rivals were Congreve and Farquhar. Before the appearance of the present biography the relations between Wycherley and Pope had been always misrepresented. From the garbled version of their correspondence published by the latter it was supposed that Pope had constantly maintained a tone of superiority and forbearance in his intercourse with the old dramatist, whose poems he had felt himself obliged to criticize with somewhat unsparing severity. Pope's share in the correspondence is still only known by his own untrustworthy version, but Wycherley's genuine letters are here published for the first time from the Longleat MSS. They are not models of good taste or of elegant composition, but they throw a new and very unexpected light on the

relations between the two men. Wycherley's letters show no signs of the senile petulance or loss of memory of which Pope pretended to complain. So far from displaying irritability at his young friend's remarks on the poems sent to him for correction, he complains that they were too favourably criticized. Wycherley's letters are written in the usual complimentary language of that age, but, as Mr. Courthope points out, the "deference and gratitude" came from Pope.

Many will be disappointed to find that Mr. Courthope is not able to clear up the uncertainty attaching to Pope's quarrel with Addison, though he is strongly of opinion that Addison never saw the lines on Atticus. Mr. Courthope has, however, succeeded in refuting the old scandal that Pope had received a bribe of 1,000*l.* from the Duchess of Marlborough to suppress the 'Character of Atossa.' We have more than once expressed a strong conviction that there was no foundation for the report, and it appears from the letters in the Blenheim collection that the money was given by the Duchess as a present to Pope, who was persuaded with much difficulty to accept it, but there is no trace of any terms or conditions being attached to the gift. We cannot, however, agree with Mr. Courthope that the lines on "Atossa" have no reference to the Duchess of Marlborough. Like many of Pope's allusions, the 'Character' has a dual signification, and it was intended to apply equally to the Duchess of Buckinghamshire and the Duchess of Marlborough.

The chapter on the 'Dunciad' contains a good account of the hostilities between Pope and the Grub Street writers; but a mistaken idea is conveyed of the latter. They were spoken of by their adversary as "dunces," and the term is indiscriminately applied by Mr. Courthope and other writers on the subject to all the authors who quarrelled with Pope. Among these were doubtless some of the same class as Thomas Cooke, a wretched scribbler, who kept body and soul together for the last twenty years of his life by begging subscriptions for a translation of Plautus. But many of the authors pilloried in the 'Dunciad' were men of considerable ability, and Theobald, the hero of the poem, was not, as here described, "utterly insignificant." We pointed out not long ago in these columns that he was the first Shakespearean scholar of his day. Oldmixon, though a dull historian, was a leading pamphleteer of the Whig party, and the friend of Addison and Arthur Maynwaring. It would be easy to name others among Pope's victims who scarcely deserved to be called "dunces," but the whole subject has been fully discussed on former occasions. We have little space left to dwell on the 'Moral Essays and Satires,' which we are strongly inclined to consider as Pope's masterpieces. In his earlier productions we may find the same polished verse and an equal felicity of expression, but there is not that knowledge of the world, that terseness, that consummate mastery of language, which distinguish these works of his matured genius. Pope was able in those later days by the merest allusion to an incident to convey exactly the impression he intended, and then to pass on to other subjects without

allowing the reader to feel conscious of any abruptness or break in the easy flow of the numbers. With the exception of the 'Rape of the Lock,' unsurpassed and inimitable in its own class, the best known of Pope's works in the present day are the 'Moral Essays and Satires,' and they will always remain as the most enduring records of his genius.

We cannot better conclude our review of Mr. Courthope's scholarly work than by quoting a passage from his chapter on "Pope's Place in English Literature":—

"Pope was an ethical and satiric poet, but ethical and satirical poetry was what his age needed, and in that order of poetry he is a classic. His place in English poetry is in fact assured. Taking up the work that Dryden had begun, he saved poetry from the swamp in which it was sinking from a too conservative attachment to an obsolete idea of Nature, and to effete modes of composition. He placed it on a new foundation of Nature, corresponding with the general intelligence of his age, and he furnished it with a new ideal of harmonious and correct expression, the effects of which are still felt in the language."

*Moral Order and Progress: an Analysis of Ethical Conceptions.* By S. Alexander. (Trübner & Co.)

(First Notice.)

THIS is a thoughtful and learned book. The author has carefully meditated the work of his predecessors, but he feels also the well-justified ambition to present more fully and on more sides the doctrine that has dawned on them. He is anxious to do justice to the elements of truth in theories unlike as well as similar to his own. Without affecting elegance of style he writes in a clear, manly, direct, and occasionally humorous fashion; and though in certain sentences there is that vagueness which the critic is sure to find somewhere in all philosophical writing, where the clue to the author's mind gets lost, and he seems either to reason arbitrarily or to have retired temporarily to some region undiscoverable to his readers, on the whole Mr. Alexander leaves them in no doubt about his meaning, and impresses them with a feeling that his thought and experience are genuinely personal. The volume, while in a sense eminently practical, and the work of a man who has looked for his inspiration to life itself, must not be understood to be primarily a work of detail. In the description of moral progress, for instance, the reader must expect little in the way of piquant anecdote; the sketch is given only in the broadest outline, but an outline, as it seems to us, firmer and truer than that traced by any predecessor. His readers might, indeed, be glad to have more illustration, more tests of the general doctrine, and will feel occasionally on the point of reminding the author of his own wise saying, that "a formula should be treated with respect, yet not with too much respect." Still, broadly speaking, it is the work of a philosopher to find formulas, even though the Mirabeaus, the men of genius, may claim the right to trample on them. The union of breadth with enough sagacity to temper it seems the essential requisite of a moral philosopher, and Mr. Alexander possesses it in an eminent degree.

We rather demur at the beginning to the description of the work as "an analysis of



ethical conceptions," that is, "a grouping of the facts (*i.e.*, the common moral judgments) under these conceptions," which again "involves a systematization both of the facts and of the conceptions." We are told that we shall thus see the genesis, and thereby the relative value, of various moral theories, since theories spring from "emphasizing one part of the subject they investigate, from reflecting and refining on the conceptions that underlie it." We should be prepared to accept these highly general expressions as a sufficient though vague description of the plan of a work of which they are merely the exordium. But we should like to see it more distinctly stated that the conceptions to be systematized may in consequence of the process assume a form widely different from that with which they started. When Mr. Alexander tells his readers in his preface that he groups "together ethical facts under the main working conceptions used in morality," that is, connects the ethical judgments of the common man by conceptions no wider and newer than those of the common man, they cannot but ask, Whence are we to get that higher and truer view of the meaning of those judgments which a book like this promises? If his ethical conceptions were only those current in ordinary moral experience, his book would be without novelty. The fact seems to be that the two sets of conceptions are identified by him simply on the ground that there is a continuous development from one to the other. But what would development mean if its terminus were identical with its starting-point? We might on this matter quote Mr. Alexander's own language at p. 61.

We are entirely at one with Mr. Alexander in the excellent sections in which he points out the gradual convergence of moral theories in what he happily calls their "media axiomata," standing between the metaphysical assumptions on which philosophers still disagree, and the details of conduct which still cause some division among practical men. It is clear, as he remarks, that we have something like agreement on this point, that man is not to be dis severed from society, that his good cannot be so much as conceived apart from the good of society. This is by no means the optimistic view that between individual good and general good there can be no conflict. However perfect the social machine, it cannot be doubted that it will sometimes crush individual happiness. What is asserted is that egoism and utilitarianism are both put out of the field by their attempt to build a theory of right conduct on the interest of the individual, since his necessary implication with others—with his family, at least, if he is dead to all other claims—endows him with a set of instincts and emotions that carry him far outside the bounds of his individual interest, and are in their developed form the very topics ethics is most concerned with. And the recognition of this—often roughly put down to the overpowering prevalence of biological ideas, intruding, perhaps, beyond measure on alien spheres—is due, as Mr. Alexander well points out, like all other practical judgments, mainly to life itself and social history, to the pressure towards universal freedom and equality, the growth of interest of different persons and classes in one

another, the growing perception of, and aversion to, pain beyond our individual selves, the felt necessity of doing something to organize our chaotic industrial world and to develop our militant force. Mr. Alexander adds—and it will, perhaps, be considered one of the most original thoughts of his book—that, so far from making ethics dependent on ideas of evolution, or on those fundamental conceptions the settlement of which is undertaken by metaphysics, he hopes that by a careful survey of the ethical province light may be thrown in the opposite direction on metaphysical problems and the nature of evolution. Future work of the author is apparently hinted at in this sentence, and will be looked for with considerable interest.

The author begins to lay down the scheme of the book more precisely at p. 16. It is intended to analyze first the conceptions relating to the existence of the moral judgment (the statics of the subject or, as elsewhere denominated, formal morality), then those connected with its growth and maintenance (dynamics). Prior to either of these the author considers what is the subject of the moral judgment, what it is that is good. Then come the two divisions mentioned above relating to the predicates of the judgment. Thus conduct and character have to be treated first. It has to be considered whether the data (the common moral judgments) allow us to assert with Kant that the good will, and that alone, is the subject of praise. The author also takes occasion, in a chapter of great interest (bk. i. chap. iii.), to consider under what aspect conduct is regarded by ethics, an inquiry which marks the boundary-line between ethics on the one hand and natural science, psychology, and metaphysics on the other. The polemic against Green's metaphysics will be noticed here, and the sketch of the three stages of thought regarding human action, of which Mill, Mr. Spencer, and Mr. Stephen are taken as representatives; on this, however, we cannot dwell. The method and character of a science are defined by its subject-matter, and, as Mr. Alexander well points out, this assignment of certain phenomena to a special science is often emphatically pointed out by qualifying those phenomena by an adjective derived from the name of the science that treats of them, as in such phrases as "the economic forces of society," "the chemical composition of a substance." As affording a convenient summary of the author's views a sentence or two more may be quoted from the introduction. "All these conceptions," *viz.*, those used in describing the contents of morality,

"I group under the head of Moral Order, because the inquiry will show that the idea of good or right implies nothing more than an adjustment of parts in an orderly whole, which in the individual represents an equilibrium of different powers, in the society an equilibrium of different persons."

Again, the dynamical conceptions

"will be found to be involved in a single dynamical law. It will be found that Moral Ideals move by a process which, allowing for differences, repeats the law by which natural species develop, and of this process the dynamical conceptions represent different elements."

We have now to see how our author's inten-

tions have been carried out, and his suggestions proved.

Of much of book i. little need be said. It has a good analysis, based on the latest psychological authorities, of will and desire; it gives reasons, after due consideration of cases that seem to prove the opposite, for acquiescing in the conviction that moral approbation attaches only to conscious volition, and conversely that no volitions are indifferent; and it seeks accurately to define conduct so far as it is the subject of moral judgment, laying thereby, as has been said above, a basis for distinguishing ethics from other studies which also consider human action. This analysis of conduct seems to us in the main satisfying and profound. With its terminology we are not quite so well pleased; difficulty will be found, we think, in apprehending the meaning attached by Mr. Alexander to "motive" and to the still more ambiguous phrase "moral sentiments." The gist of the chapter (book i. chap. ii.) seems to be this: Conduct is more than mere external action, and involves with this both an inner source in feeling and outward results as consequences. External action, merely as such, is not conduct in the ethical sense, but only so far as it is the object willed, and there are other objects willed besides external action—*e.g.*, the suppression or retention of a thought or feeling; or the object willed may be some passive state to which the external action is merely instrumental. Even where such action is the direct object willed, the willing is still also "an internal event," for in willing "to go to London, my object is the state of mind I am in when going to London, not the mere physical movement of the body"; in fact, even in regard to what may be called "outward conduct," "the outward motion is accidental," as it makes no difference to the morality of my act whether I actually stretch out my hand in order to save a person from falling or am arrested in so doing. Conduct is thus identical with character, unless by a confusion we identify "conduct with mere action"; "all actions approved by morality proceed from a character which wills them." It will be better, then, to enlarge the sense of the word "consequences," making it apply to the whole outer aspect of the volition, including the action willed itself: consequences are not out of relation to the mind that wills, but some are remoter than others, or may affect others besides the agent, but all the same they are treated as part of the conduct under judgment; we do not praise the conduct and condemn the consequences, but we view the very conduct in the light of its foreseen consequences, and if those are bad we condemn the conduct as not the conduct required. If we proceed next to examine more closely the inner source of conduct, we find a distinction called for between motives and moral (or active) sentiments. Motive is used either for a disposition stimulating to action—*e.g.*, ambition—or for the idea which is the object of the action, *e.g.*, where one's motive in writing is said to be to warn a friend. In the former and more proper sense motive, though "the antecedent and cause of action, is not in itself moral, except so far as it is absorbed into volition." Anger does not make me kill the man who has injured me, but it will intensify the desire to kill till the desire becomes



volition. The desire to kill Mr. Alexander calls the active sentiment, the anger the motive; or, again, kindly feeling he calls a motive; benevolence, a sentiment in which it is modified by the idea of some benevolent act. It may be doubted whether he will succeed in ridding moral philosophy of the double sense of the word "motive," still more if he will make others use the vague word "sentiment" in the same sense as himself; but his attempt to discriminate motives—as the original stimulants of all action—from the will at any moment of the complex human soul deserves recognition and probably acceptance. The distinction has, no doubt, been crudely drawn before, but never, we think, with the same definiteness and fulness of illustration and criticisms. The upshot of book i. may be simply expressed thus. Whereas it seems at first that there are two entirely distinct questions, to one of which ethics gives the answer, What is good conduct? and What is a good man? Mr. Alexander concludes, as Mr. Stephen with less investigation had concluded before him, that the questions are not two, but one and identical. It is perhaps worth noticing the affinity between this view and that of the earliest systematic ethics we know of. We seem, in fact, to have come back to the Aristotelian notion of a wise man, who is himself the canon and measure of good conduct; and the well-known Aristotelian formula, that virtue consists in doing each thing "when and as it ought to be done and according to the standard of the wise man," recurs to one's mind more than once in reading the fuller inquiries of Mr. Alexander's second book.

For this book, which treats of the nature of the morally good and finds it in a certain order and equilibrium, the elements of which vary from age to age, but are for each age relatively constant, regards this order as an order not merely in society, but in the individual—an order doing justice to all the sentiments, instincts, and appetites by a sort of compromise in which each sacrifices something that the man's whole nature may not be maimed or in some part atrophied. The question of the book is, What do we mean by right and wrong, good and bad? The tenor of the author's reply has been broadly indicated already. He is in general concurrence with Mr. Stephen's 'Science of Ethics,' his vigorous and well-deserved praise of which will possibly send not a few readers back to a reperusal of that rough and cumbersome, but acute and earnest work. The great division among ethical theories is according as one starts from individual feeling or social feeling. No real philosopher, it is contended, has ever entirely neglected either or denied the necessity of harmonizing them. Even Hume insisted on each man's sympathy with his fellows; even the Cyrenaics upheld a certain standard of personal dignity, which "implies a conception of man as not merely personal, but as typical of a perfection which others may sympathize in and can attain to." Like knowledge, perfect conduct must be in one sense the spontaneous outcome of the individual, in another sense that in which all members of a society can agree as the true outcome of their common life. "To think for yourself not only does not exclude, but on the contrary rigidly demands, think-

ing along with others, the discounting of circumstances which can be appreciated only by yourself." Moral theories from Hobbes to Bentham, starting from the idea of the individual's pursuit of happiness, could not by any refinement explain the social character of goodness. Mill and others have thought that we could be brought to recognize the happiness of others and of ourselves as both equally desirable, because to the eye of reason there was no distinction between A's happiness and B's; but though there may be none to reason, there may be much to desire. Mr. Spencer remained at the stage of "attraction and also repulsion": the individual to him was both egoistic and altruistic, and the egoism must prevail over the altruism. First in the work of Mr. Stephen we find it fully recognized that the individual, born into and a part of society, has no character or personality detached from it, but has his sentiments and character determined for him by his place in it. He is not the independent individual of the earlier thinkers, but so much "social tissue," capable, indeed, of differentiation in form and function, but still essentially a constituent in some mode of society, and an unreal abstraction if considered apart from it. The most superficial consideration shows, and all facts go to confirm, that he is social to the core.

#### *Reminiscences of a Literary and Clerical Life.*

By the Author of 'Three-Cornered Essays,' &c. 2 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

REMINISCENCES seem to be a most popular form of literature, presumably because they gratify the taste for gossip and make little demand upon mental energies. Authors find them easy to write, and the public finds them easy to read. Volumes of reminiscences may, of course, be works of permanent value and importance. Those which have achieved the most legitimate success contain the recollections of well-known men respecting events in which they have played a conspicuous part, or give the keen observations of Methuselahs who have been valets to the heroes of past generations. The author of 'Reminiscences of a Literary and Clerical Life' would certainly not claim either title to the notice of the reading public. He is presumably not much more than fifty years of age, and, though his life has been varied, he has never occupied a large space in the eyes of his contemporaries. His 'Reminiscences' throw no new light on any remarkable events or on any distinguished persons. But they form a biography of the author of 'Three-Cornered Essays' and the other publications which lurk under the mask of an "&c."

Our author begins at the beginning, with a sketch of his ancestral origin. He introduces the reader to his relatives, paternal and maternal. His maternal grandfather was a country clergyman and a voluminous writer.

"One of his numerous writings was a little book on suicide—an earnest discourse to those intent upon self-murder. It singularly happened that one of the persons to whom he lent the book proceeded to hang himself."

His father was "a good man with some of the elements of a great man," and the son "never met any one whose character and

personality impressed him so much." This is as it should be. We are the more disposed to accept the filial tribute because of the old gentleman's choice of a text, when his son was about to preach to the police, "Lay hands suddenly on no man." But of all our author's relatives we should most have liked to have known "Aunt Sophy":

"She lived to the age of ninety-four, in the full possession of her remarkable faculties. She ascribed her longevity to the habit of taking at her tea one-third of a grain of opium. She always had unbroken rest, unless she had forgotten to take her pill. She never had any bad results, nor ever wished to increase the dose."

This nonagenarian opium-eater reappears at a later period in the author's 'Reminiscences' as

"a venerable relative who took an opium pill every night of her blameless life, never losing a good night's rest, unless she had forgotten her dose, and died, almost accidentally, in full possession of her faculties at the age of ninety-four."

Our author, as a boy, visited Wombwell's Menagerie, where he felt irresistibly impelled to shake hands with a "magnificent old lion." Before he could accomplish his purpose, a sharp cut in the face from the whip of the keeper made him desist. Since then he has been a hunter of human lions, and has known or seen, or seen or known men who have seen or known, many of the celebrities of the day. "Some of my early recollections," he says, "relate to two Dukes."

"One is the Duke of Wellington. It is always a matter of self-gratulation that I have seen the Duke. I have known those who knew him well. I am so glad that I have seen him..... The other was the old Duke of Cambridge. He happened to be on the platform of our station, returning from some visit. He had Baron Kneesebeck with him. A singularly affable and kind-hearted Prince, he entered into conversation with one or two persons on the platform,"

including our author, then a boy at school. Another great man to whom he introduced himself was Lord Macaulay. The author was then a student at Glasgow University, of which seat of learning the historian had once been Lord Rector. He called at the Albany and obtained an order for the House, but naively adds that Macaulay's "face had a heavy expression, and it failed to light up as it generally did."

Many royal personages pass across the author's stage, but generally at a most respectful distance. The author was staying at Paris when he was shocked to hear of "the death of the Duke of Hamilton. He had given me his best bursary at Glasgow College; I had dedicated a little book to him, had some correspondence with him, and had made his personal acquaintance at Baden-Baden. He and his Duchess, by imperial ordinance, were received on the footing of royalty in Paris."

He has also met the Grand Duke of Hesse, the President of Liberia, and Queen Emma. With our own royal family the author has not been on such intimate terms. A friend of his was a correspondent of Princess Alice, and, though it is in the nature of a digression, it may be mentioned that the author also "met with a certain number of persons who knew the Emperor" of the French. Further he knew the late Dean Connor, who "feelingly described to him the deep depression and dejection under which Her Majesty" the Queen "laboured" after the death of the Duchess of Kent. The Queen was at the

time "erecting a touching memorial to Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I." not, as the author states, in "Carisbrooke Church," but in Newport Church.

"On one occasion there was total silence among the whole of the Royal party. The Queen noiselessly went up to the monument and inspected its progress, and not a whisper was heard in the church during her visit."

We have always understood that those who know most about the interiors of palaces are the most reticent of information. There are, however, numerous persons who can supply details by the help of their imaginations. It is to be feared that our author has derived his details respecting the royal chaplains from the latter class of informants. Our author has visited Windsor as a sightseer, and has "heard of the Queen being present in the royal closet of St. George's Chapel when no one engaged in the services suspected it." He has also seen

"the private apartments, including some rooms not usually shown even to favoured visitors. I was struck with the simple grace and homeliness of the Princess Beatrice's room, with the easy chair, writing-table, couch, and shelf of books as in other houses.....The private chapel was very interesting, not only for the illustrious audience that assembled there, but for the very remarkable men, some of them friends of my own, who have officiated there."

These quotations might be indefinitely extended from the 540 pages which these 'Reminiscences' fill. We conclude with an extract which illustrates the character of our author's sermons and the audience which he was, or is, as we hope, in the habit of addressing:—

"In those days I remember I was unduly given to going into long sermons. It was a time of keen discussion on certain religious subjects, and I was deeply interested in them. I remember preaching for upwards of an hour one morning. My reverend brethren were wild with me, and plainly intimated that that kind of sermon could not be tolerated. There was a fashionable countess there that morning, and she quitted the church, leaving a civil message with the beadle to the effect that it was all very interesting, but she was sorry she could not stay any longer."

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Of High Descent.* By George Manville Fenn. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

*Sheba.* By Rita. 3 vols. (White & Co.)

*Her Own Counsel.* By the Author of 'Dr. Edith Romney.' 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

*My Lord Othello.* By Henry Cresswell. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*Passion's Slave.* By Richard Ashe King. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

*Randall Trevor.* By Herbert P. Earle. 2 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

*The Curse of Carne's Hold.* By G. A. Henty. 2 vols. (Blackett & Hallam.)

*Leonora.* By William V. Herbert. (Ward & Downey.)

*Olympias.* By T. Sparrow. (Remington & Co.)

MR. FENN'S prolific pen has lost none of its cunning, and his present venture is, of course, fertile in action, incident, and plot. The characters, it is true, are more pronounced than complex. Uncle Luke, the eccentric old sportsman who shuts himself up in a cottage, but like many other skin-deep cynics takes the profoundest interest in everybody else's business, is a little too farcical for a novel, yet he would do

well on the stage, where the double assault and complicated burglary in Van Helder's office would be quite attractive. Indeed, most of the characters are stagey. Aunt Marguerite, with her insane pride in her Huguenot descent, the vulgar villain Pradelle, and Liza the maid are all redolent of the footlights. Liza is a true London "general," not a Cornish lass, as her disloyalty to her young mistress shows. Poll Perrow is true to nature, but wants development. The leading ladies are cleverly drawn. Madelaine's transparent honesty and Louie's sisterly affection are decidedly attractive. The scene in which Duncan Leslie makes his avowal of love to Louie, so ill-timed and so ill-received, is one of the best. May we suggest to Mr. Fenn that a well-educated girl like Louie would not say, "There, darling, I'm speaking to you like our mother would"?

The author of 'Gretchen' retains her power of original portraiture of women, and Sheba, intellectual, imaginative, and passionate, will hold a conspicuous place in her gallery. The tragic history of the wild Australian girl, after her easy-going, but loving father's death, and when she has escaped from the thralldom of petty people with snobbish social aims, but no aspirations like her own, turns upon a terrible moral problem: given a loveless and sin-dishonoured marriage, and an irregular connexion begun in ignorance, but riveted by sympathy and passion, which is the true marriage, which the outrage upon nature? It is not quite certain how far the author is in sympathy with Franz Müller, the old German violinist, who shakes Sheba's faith in the orthodox creed; but she shows clearly enough that esoteric Buddhism is but a shadowy guide for the conduct of impulsive girls. The lucubrations of that musician are prolix, but suggestive; of course his contemptuous estimate of the clergy of all kinds is unfair enough, and must be taken with salt. The only colonial trait in this readable book, apart from its excellent local colouring, is the introduction of an earl. Rita should note that earls' younger sons are not entitled "lords." As Sheba is rescued from death by the good clergyman, we may expect to hear more of her history. Let us hope that in what will be in effect "another life," Müller's doctrine of compensation may turn out to have some practical value for her.

The heroine of 'Her Own Counsel' is apparently a "study of character." This young lady, who is supremely beautiful, has been brought up by her artist-father as what one of the other characters calls a pagan. The object of her existence is simply to be beautiful, and she has an inbred detestation of everything not æsthetically perfect, but entirely lacks all sense of honour or religion. She upsets matters a good deal by falling in love with an honourable man, who does not approve of a singularly mean trick which she perpetrates. The marriage is a failure from the first, mainly on account of the husband's utterly impossible behaviour. Then she is accused (wrongfully) of infidelity, and from this point her proceedings become so wild and her motives so puzzling that any one who wishes to know more of them must read for himself;

in which attempt he will be supported by finding some very pleasant secondary characters (notably the Thorne family), who do their best to atone for the dullness of the principals.

It is almost—we will not say quite—worth while wading through the first two volumes of 'My Lord Othello' for the sake of the situation attained in the third. It is by no means utilized to the full extent of its capacity; but no clumsiness of treatment could rob it of its essential dramatic strength. Briefly, Kate, the wife of Maurice Leighton, accidentally discovers that her husband's cousin, Beatrice Leighton, is living with Oswald Clifford. Beatrice saves Kate's life at great risk, and exacts a promise that Kate will tell no one what she has seen. Kate keeps it faithfully, but by so doing exposes herself to suspicion, and finally to divorce; and her husband, in perfect good faith, marries again—and marries that very Beatrice whose dishonour was the unknown cause of his separation from his first wife. The possibilities of such a situation are, as has been said, inadequately developed, but the author has manifestly put so much honest work into the attempt that we should be unwilling to further discourage any one who inclines to form his own opinion of the result.

Mr. King introduces his readers to sundry people of both sexes who are the slaves of passion, some fettered more securely than others, but all serving stern and ruthless masters. The title probably refers to one Clare Ruthven, afterwards Clare Varien. Clare is a good-for-nothing from her birth, who works havoc amongst all the men she meets, and, having given them in turn a more or less valuable experience, "overboard one stormy night she flings her body"—and the world sweeps on very well without her. The hero is Herbert Varien, who is also one of the slaves; but the heroine, fortunately, is a free woman throughout. Mr. King is a refined and pleasant writer who knows how to treat his materials with moderation and discretion. His tact is generally beyond reproach; but it is doubtful if a modern heroine in real life would take so quietly as Kathleen does the deception practised upon her by Varien, who apparently manufactures favourable press notices of her literary efforts, and admittedly suborns a publisher to offer her five hundred pounds for a second novel. But a novelist ought to know if such things can be, and if a disillusion of that kind would be acceptable to a person of proper spirit.

'Randall Trevor' is not remarkable for goodness or badness either. It is written painstakingly and conscientiously enough, but that is not sufficient to carry off two volumes. The author appears to have tried to infuse an air of actuality and of life, but without much success. Perception of a sort he may have; but it is evident that he has no habit of original observation or thought. The power of selection or elimination is also quite lacking, and the story is even duller than it need have been, because the matter is so spun out as to seem more attenuated than it really is. Anything that might have been good is spoilt by this overloading and laboriousness of touch, and there is a complete absence of *ensemble*.



Mr. Henty so arranges his material that the latter half at least of his new story, 'The Curse of Carne's Hold,' is a tale of thrilling adventure and peril in his own well-known style. The earlier scenes take place in an out-of-the-way spot in Devonshire. The family and possessors of Carne's Hold are supposed to be weighted with a curse bestowed on them by an ancestor, a beautiful Spanish lady. The curse takes the form of hereditary madness, which is not the most pleasing or cheerful *motif* for a story. It may be said, however, that Mr. Henty, who is before all things a novelist of action, does not work this vein in too scientific or morbid a spirit. The story opens peacefully and quietly enough, with only the necessary amount of premonition and trouble hovering in the background. Then the old curse, which has been lying dormant, and is only spoken of with bated breath by the more superstitious of the country folk, again resumes its sway. A dramatic murder follows, and ushers in an exciting trial and the subsequent disappearance of the hero, who is the suspected person. In South Africa he adventures himself in the quelling of the Kaffir risings of the year 1850, and distinguishes himself notably. Readers who may have guessed how the land really lies will not be greatly surprised at the *dénouement*, which reveals the true murderer and sets everything right for the lovers. The story is brisk in movement, and quite exciting enough to be appreciated by a certain class of readers, young and old.

The cause of authorship is often a puzzling question, but it is rarely so insoluble as in the case of 'Leonora.' Few people nowadays are so ignorant of literary matters as to suppose novel-writing to be a profitable occupation even for leisure hours; therefore money was presumably not the author's object. Vanity, again, is equally inconceivable in this case, for the author can hardly be so destitute of critical perception as to believe it possible that the publication of 'Leonora' should bring him either fame or notoriety. On the whole, the most probable hypothesis that occurs to us is that Mr. Herbert is a misanthrope who desires to wreak vengeance on such portion of the human race as are forced by circumstances to read his book. Let the more fortunate majority take warning and avoid it.

If imitation is indeed the sincerest flattery, more than one so-called romance built on the lines of 'Thoth'—but in execution, alas! how different—has lately borne testimony to the merit of that striking romance of the past. 'Olympias' is one of these; and it does not seem to us that there is much more to say of it, unless it be that the time is the latter half of the twelfth century and the scene Athens and the Byzantine Court. The Princess Anna Comnena and others—historical or fanciful—figure in it, but impress one with no sense of vitality or power; neither does the language produce any feeling of illusion or antiquity. In spite of certain turns of speech and tricks of manner it is only like reading a tame and rather pretentious every-day story. The author has allowed the word "essentially" to get the upper hand. Some one is possessed of an "essentially art-loving nature," others have essentially something else—what, we forget

—but it is certainly not the power to impress themselves on the imagination or memory. Here is a specimen of the sort of writing; somebody's soul and a steel mirror have got a little mixed, but the latter part of the sentence may serve, perhaps, to illustrate, not the soul of the reader, but the effect of 'Olympias' upon it:—

"His soul was apparently but a blank and glittering surface like a polished steel mirror, which reflected everything near it brightly, vividly, keenly; and then faded away as if it had never been."

#### CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

*Fifty-two Stories for Boys.* Edited by A. H. Miles. (Hutchinson & Co.)

*Bert.* By Janie Brockman. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)

*Robin's Promise.* By Emily Grace Harding. (Same publishers.)

*Eric.* By E. G. Wilcox. (Same publishers.)

*Blown to Bits: a Story of the Malay Archipelago.*

By R. M. Ballantyne. (Nisbet & Co.)

*A Narrative of the Peninsular Campaign, 1807-1814.* Abridged from Napier by W. T. Dobson. (Bickers & Son.)

*The Leather Stocking Tales for Boys and Girls.* (Routledge & Sons.)

*Captain.* By Madame P. de Nanteuil. Translated by Laura Ensor. (Same publishers.)

*Earthquakes.* By Arnold Boscowitz. Translated by C. B. Pitman. (Same publishers.)

*The World of Adventure.* (Cassell & Co.)

*Little Folks.* New and Enlarged Series. (Same publishers.)

*Russian Pictures, drawn with Pen and Pencil.* By Thomas Michell, C.B. (Religious Tract Society.)

Boys who have never read any of Mr. Miles's stories before will be much gratified by the intellectual feast provided for them in the Christmas holidays. But we fear the more experienced and astute of our young readers will find a good many of the tales familiar. On the whole, the volume is an excellent compilation; but how is it that Mr. Kingston and Capt. Mayne Reid are still having their works exploited? To our taste there is too large an American element in the collection. We have all cousinly feeling, but do not want our boys denationalized; and the school stories especially do not correspond with any associations of English boyhood. The name of David Ker is a sufficient guarantee for the imaginative nature of some of the tales.

The next three stories are innocent baby books, which will arouse resentment in the infant breast. Children like something a little above themselves, and do not care for an ineffective reproduction of the babble of the nursery. Who has not waded with pleasure through 'Sandford and Merton' for the sake of the bull-baiting, and the Highlander who cut off the dog's head with his broadsword? Shades of Edgeworth and Barbauld! are these infantine follies supposed to be an improvement on your labours?

'Blown to Bits' shows a veteran story-teller at his wonted level. He is naturally a little more marvellous than usual, seeing that the eruption of Krakatoa surpassed everything the fictitious long-bow could attain. But it is a stroke of genius to shoot the boat in which the fugitive hero and the hermit of the isle are escaping on board the ship in which the heroine is making her voyage. To strand the ship afterwards some miles inland is tame by the side of this coincidence. The description of the Keelson Islands is interesting.

Mr. Dobson's abridgment of Napier will be rightly a favourite with boys, but the illustrations might be better.

A reprint (apparently abridged) of those favourites of youth 'The Deerslayer,' 'The Last of the Mohicans,' and others of Fenimore Cooper's tales ought to be a treat to boys;

but the coloured plates Messrs. Routledge have inserted are atrocious, and nobody who wishes his children to have any taste should give them the book.—Madame de Nanteuil's pleasant tale deserved translation, but we think Miss Ensor might have translated it better. The excellent illustrations do not look quite so well as in the French edition.—Much the same remarks apply to 'Earthquakes.'

Messrs. Cassell have published a volume extracted, we imagine, from various of their publications; but in pursuance of a bad habit of theirs no indication of the sources is given. However, boys and girls are not bibliographers, and will find 'The World of Adventure' thrilling reading. The illustrations, which, we fancy, come from the ample stores of cuts possessed by the firm, are of varying merit, some of them excellent. They would probably all look better if printed on paper of superior quality.—*Little Folks* we have frequently praised, and the present volume may be said to be the best that has appeared.

The author of Murray's 'Handbook for Russia' has produced a volume which we can safely pronounce excellent. The Religious Tract Society are in the habit of publishing a volume each year of what is called a "Pen and Pencil Series," and it is unlikely that the Society will surpass the present volume, for Mr. Michell knows Russia as few people know any country, and if he has, according to some, a good deal of political prejudice, he has, at all events, contrived in this volume to keep it entirely in the background. We have been unable to detect in Mr. Michell's book a trace of an attitude unworthy of the historian. The illustrations are mostly from photographs, and but for a certain blackness in some of them would be to the popular view very good indeed. A portion are excellent, and all are pleasant except to the skilled eye, which would lead artists to pronounce many of them bad. On the whole, the volume can be highly commended as an admirable brief survey of the Russian empire.

#### PHILOLOGICAL BOOKS.

*The Gothic Handbook: being an Introduction to the History of the Goths and the Study of the Gothic Tongue.* By Walter Marlow Ramsay and Clifford Dalhousie Ramsay. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)—This little volume of less than 150 pages is intended "to serve at once as an introduction to the history and literature of the Goths, as a grammar and first reading-book on the language, and a philological commentary, illustrating, among other things, the relation of the language to Sanskrit, Latin, and Greek." In the preface the authors justly praise Mr. Douse's 'Introduction to Gothic' for its "scientific and advanced philology"; but they appear to have no suspicion of the wide divergence that exists between Mr. Douse's philological views and their own, which can scarcely have been learnt from any later masters than Bopp and Grimm. Nearly every paragraph dealing with matters of comparative grammar contains one or two statements which no scientific philologist would now accept. The Gothic *sinks*, sick, is said to be "identical with [the Sanskrit] *sukhas*, happy"; *daits*, a part (English *deal*), is identified with the Sanskrit *dala*, and *braids*, broad, with *πλατύς*. The reader is further told that *bajoths*, both, includes a form of the numeral *twai* (two), and that the verbs *sitan*, to sit, *dragan*, to draw, had originally the same stem-vowel in the present tense ("for *i* in *sita* is for an earlier *a*"); the fact that the preterites of these verbs differ in their vowel is explained by the supposition that they were formed at different periods. After all this it will not seem surprising that the "historical" portion of the work advocates the hypothesis of the identity of the Goths and the Getæ. This opinion was once supported by the transcendent authority of Jacob Grimm; but it would be hard to find a sound Teutonic philologist who now



adheres to it. Messrs. Ramsay, as might be expected, are quite unaware of the existence of any serious arguments, either linguistic or historical, against Grimm's theory. The grammar, except where it touches on comparative philology, is fairly good, though there are several bad misprints. The ten pages of Gothic text given as reading lessons are accompanied by a vocabulary, but are not furnished with notes, though the extracts do not seem to be exceptionally easy.

*Elene: an Old English Poem.* Edited, with Introduction, Latin Original, Notes, and Complete Glossary, by Charles W. Kent. (Ginn & Co.)—*Elene; Judith; Athelstan, or the Fight at Brunanburh; and Byrhtnoth, or the Fight at Maldon: Anglo-Saxon Poems.* Translated by James M. Garnett. (Same publishers.)—Prof. Kent's edition of Cynewulf's 'Elene,' though by no means an example of high-class scholarship, is probably more suitable for junior students than any other edition. The glossary, while obviously founded on that of Zupitza, gives the references more in detail, and several pages of notes are appended. On the other hand, Zupitza's critical foot-notes have not been retained, and consequently the entries in the glossary which refer to readings not accepted in the text will sometimes be found rather puzzling. Prof. Kent begs his critics to attribute the errors in his edition not to carelessness, but to his want of experience in text-editing. The excuse may perhaps avail with regard to the many mistakes in the accentuation, but there are several errors which imply a degree of ignorance scarcely pardonable in a Professor of "English and Modern Languages." Prof. Kent says that "there can be no doubt that *tír*, glory, is closely connected etymologically with *Tiw* (O.N. *Týr*), and it was most probably at first another name for the same god." This is wholly impossible; the words may be from the same ultimate root, but that is all. Under *þéodenbealu* Prof. Wülker is credited with the extraordinary statement that the word means "added injury," a mistranslation of "ein schaden welcher dem herrn zugefügt wurde." In the note to line 600 *tó gíste* is rendered "for torture," though the correct rendering, "as a hostage," is given in the glossary. For the name *Wendelsæ*, the Mediterranean, Zupitza gives, we think erroneously, "grenzmeer" as the etymological meaning. We cannot blame Prof. Kent for following so eminent a scholar, but, not knowing that *Wendelsæ* is a proper name, he ignores Zupitza's second rendering *mittelmeer*, and glosses the word as "boundary sea, boundary of the sea"!—We cannot appreciate the merit of Prof. Garnett's translations. What will the ordinary reader be able to make, for instance, of the following rendering of ll. 99-104 of the 'Elene'? We reproduce exactly the words and punctuation:—

Bade then a likeness defender of æthelings,  
Ring-giver of heroes, to that beacon he saw,  
Leader of armies, that in heaven before  
To him had appeared, with greatest haste  
[Bade] Constantine [like] the rood of Christ,  
The glorious king, a token make.

Perhaps this piece of jargon, though taken absolutely at random, may be a somewhat unfavourable specimen of Prof. Garnett's work; but the volume as a whole is not likely to be found readable by any person acquainted only with modern English. Probably the translations are intended chiefly as helps to the study of the originals; but even when judged from this point of view they are far from satisfactory. To translate Anglo-Saxon poetry intelligibly within the limits imposed by the line-for-line method is an extremely difficult task, and Prof. Garnett has added to the difficulty by attempting to reproduce the rhythm, and frequently the alliteration, of the originals. The result naturally is that his versions have, for the most part, all the harshness and obscurity of literal translations without their advantages. The student who turns to this work for light on difficult passages will often find that the difficulties have been evaded and not solved. Here

and there Prof. Garnett's renderings are decidedly felicitous; but on the whole we can only regard his book as an example of wasted labour and ingenuity.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co. send us a *Dictionary of Volapük (Volapük-English and English-Volapük)*, by Dr. M. W. Woods, an American army surgeon. It is chiefly compiled from the similar works in German, French, and Spanish, and has been revised by Mr. Sprague, the author of the excellent 'Handbook of Volapük.' The arrangement follows the very convenient plan of Belows's French dictionary, corresponding portions of the Volapük-English and the English-Volapük vocabularies occupying respectively the upper and the lower half of each page. As the volume contains nearly eight hundred columns of small type, and an article rarely exceeds a single line in length, it may be assumed that the vocabulary is fairly complete. In his preface Dr. Woods gives utterance to some extravagant notions about the perfection of Volapük as a "medium for the expression of human thought."

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

FROM Mr. John Murray there reaches us *The English Poor Law*, by Mr. T. Mackay, a volume written in defence of individualism against socialism. The author prefixes to his book a somewhat paradoxical introduction, containing a defence of the principle of *laissez-faire*, based upon the theory that the assumption that to socialism belongs the future is false, and that "history is the record of the gradual and painful emancipation of the individual from socialistic tyranny." Mr. Mackay's work is partly historical (and in this section of it he borrows, with acknowledgment, largely from Prof. Thorold Rogers) and partly modern. The division of the book which deals with the English poor law is based, also with acknowledgment, upon the evidence of Sir Hugh Owen before the Select Committee of the House of Lords, and is open to the criticism that it presents us too much with an official, and too little with a practical view of the working of the law. Sir Hugh Owen is the highest authority upon the subject, and his evidence was accurate in every point; but the poor law as administered in the metropolis—and it is of the metropolis that Mr. Mackay writes—is a very different thing from the poor law as laid down in the Local Government orders; and Mr. Mackay would have strengthened his case against the bad effects of our poor law had he taken more of an inside than of an office view. Under the outdoor relief regulation order guardians are now forbidden to relieve the able-bodied at their own homes, and may not give money out of rates towards rent or tools or the carrying on of business; but as a matter of fact they do all these things largely in most of the metropolitan unions, and it is impossible for the auditor, who has power to disallow the expenses, to become aware of what is done. Another point in which Mr. Mackay is somewhat misled, by following the official view, is in thinking that it is from his individualistic as contrasted with the socialistic point of view "best for the guardians to offer the infirm in sick cases." The infirm is detached from the workhouse, and is not looked upon by the patients as being connected with the workhouse in any way. Few of the patients really pass through the workhouse to reach the infirmary. A large number appear in the books to do so; but what happens is that they are sent in cabs, as urgent cases, to the workhouse doors, for the purpose of avoiding inquiry by relieving officers. The master is afraid to take the responsibility of refusing to send them on for fear of outcry in the newspapers if the case should be really urgent, and a patient should die during the delay by admittance to the workhouse and sending for the medical officer, and the cases are sent on to the infirmary and

immediately admitted. The infirmary officials shelter themselves, in avoiding a real investigation, behind the fact that the cases have been "sent from the workhouse." In these very numerous cases no inquiry of any kind takes place, and a large number of persons gain admittance to the metropolitan infirmaries whose friends are well able to keep them, and who would not dream of applying for admission as workhouse inmates. The metropolitan infirmaries have come to be looked upon as ordinary hospitals, and the patients do not in any way feel that they are paupers, although technically they are such. The result in the long run must be to destroy all forms of medical providence among the poor. No real fault can, however, be found with Mr. Mackay's book, which is perfectly sound from his point of view, so far as it goes, but which does not contain much that is not already known to students of the subject.

We have received from the Cambridge University Press *The Constitution of Canada*, by Mr. J. E. C. Munro, who announces his intention of following the present volume with treatises upon the Australian constitutions, the South African constitutions, and those of the Crown colonies. Mr. Munro acknowledges freely his obligations to Mr. Todd and to Dr. Bourinot, but it is unfortunate that he misspells the name of the latter (which is once rightly spelt in the preface) throughout the volume—as, for example, twenty times between pages 149 and 161. Mr. Munro's book is formal and official, and treats the Canadian constitution from a purely legal and technical point of view, without attempting to make the subject interesting to the lay reader. He does not discuss the political question, or even the treaty question, involved in the anti-Chinese legislation of British Columbia, and barely mentions those which are involved in the controversies between the provinces and the Dominion over liquor legislation; neither does he deal with the constitutional position of the Roman Catholic Church in the province of Quebec. On the few occasions on which he attempts to express opinions he shows a certain inclination to be rash—as, for example, where he says that although Newfoundland remains a separate colony, "there is at present a movement in progress in the island in favour of Union"; the fact being that, although there has been such a movement in the past, confederation is not even presented to the people as an issue at the elections now pending in the island. Another slight drawback to the value of Mr. Munro's book is his occasional obscurity. For example, in stating the position of the Governor-General as regards assent to Bills, he says that this officer "is bound, as representing the Crown, to exercise his own discretion unfettered by any advice he may receive from his Ministers, though in practice he follows such advice." It is somewhat difficult to gather from this sentence Mr. Munro's view of the Viceroy's constitutional duty. The complete detachment of the author from all concern with the political controversies which are rending British North America at the present time is shown by his not even discussing the validity of the Jesuit Act, and by his dismissing the whole of the immense difficulties attaching to the position of the "Separate" or "Dis-sentient" schools in words which would not convey to the uninstructed reader any notion of the importance of the question at issue at this moment in Manitoba. We here and there detect in Mr. Munro's book some small faults which seem to show a certain absence of revision. There is a most extraordinary blunder in the name of a well-known Governor-General at p. 121, which could hardly have escaped the author's notice if he had seen his proofs. We find also the use of a disagreeable Americanism where he discusses that which is the main difference between the Canadian constitution and that of the United States. He tells his readers that in the American commonwealth the law de-

legates to the central government definite specified powers, and leaves "the balance" of legislative power in the States—where he means not "the balance," but "the remainder"; and when he turns to Canada he explains that specified powers only are given to the provinces, and that what he again calls "the balance" of legislative power remains in the Dominion or in the British Parliament. While, however, he may please American readers by this adoption of one of the favourite coinages of their mint, he will astonish them by calling the House of Representatives "The United States Assembly." Mr. Munro's slips with regard to parliamentary forms are only those which are always made through trusting to books upon matters which are essentially things of practice. For example, he states that in Canada members may enter the House of Commons during the whole time that a count is going on, and that this is contrary to the English practice, the fact being that, like most of the Canadian forms, it is strictly modelled upon the British practice. Where Mr. Munro discusses the right of the Governor-General to disregard the advice of his ministry in the matter of parliamentary dissolutions, he would have done well to add that there have been at least two recent instances where the Governors have failed to act upon the old constitutional principles laid down by him in the words of Lord Mulgrave, and have granted dissolutions to their ministers for purely party purposes; so that the new view would seem to be that a Governor-General would be rarely, if ever, justified in refusing a dissolution. There are a few cases in which we are inclined to think, without being certain, that Mr. Munro has gone wrong. He speaks of "the Lieutenant-Governor of Keewatin," and we were under the impression that there was no such officer, but that Keewatin was administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba. At the same time, the latter may possibly hold a separate commission for Keewatin, but hardly, we should suppose, as "Lieutenant-Governor of Keewatin." Mr. Munro states that in the whole of the provinces in which the Lieutenant-Governor appoints the members of the Legislative Council the councillors hold office for life. That generally accurate work "The Colonial Office List" directly contradicts our author on the point with regard to Nova Scotia. Mr. Munro seems to imply that there is no difference between Quebec and the other provinces as regards double membership of the Senate and of the Legislative Council; but we thought that there were at least two senators at present members of the Legislative Council of Quebec. He states that in Manitoba no property qualification is necessary for membership of the Legislative Council, but elsewhere says that there is in Manitoba no Legislative Council. All these are, however, comparatively speaking, trifles, and upon the whole Mr. Munro's book forms a solid attempt to place before English readers a view of the theory rather than of the working of the Canadian constitution, and will be found useful by those who have not Dr. Bourinot's books at hand. Mr. Munro has been unlucky in his instructions to his index-maker, and the value of his work is somewhat impaired by the paucity of entries in his index—important in a work of this description. For example, we do not find "liquor," "Chinese," "French," or "Macdonald," although the first three subjects and the Prime Minister are alluded to in the text in connexions which would have made it useful to the reader to have found them in the index. There is a good deal in the work about the case known by the name of M. Letellier de St. Just, but this name also is not indexed.

A BOOK not much in the way of the *Athenæum*, but one to praise, is *Police!* by Messrs. Clarkson and Richardson, constable and journalist respectively, published by Messrs. Field & Tuer. This is a volume on the Metropolitan and City Police, historical and anecdotic, the only weak point in which is that it professes to

be upon police generally, whereas it does not tell the reader much with regard to the police of the counties or of the great provincial towns. The authors evidently express the ordinary feeling of the police themselves in preferring Sir Edmund Henderson to Sir Charles Warren, but write with impartiality. We can strongly recommend the volume.

In a pretty volume, entitled *Translations into Latin Verse* (Bell & Sons), Mr. Herbert Millington, the head master of Bromsgrove School, has collected some thirty-three "fair copies" which he has from time to time dictated to his pupils. Many of the English pieces selected for translation, and especially those which have been actually set in Oxford examinations, are such as ought not to be put into Latin at all, being entirely dependent on metaphors and other figures which a Roman poet could not have used. With these Mr. Millington has done as well as could be expected, but it must be said that his Latin very often requires a reference to the crib. Who, for instance, could guess that "obruisti pondere imaginum" means "you slew him with your noble birth," or that "et quo Invalidum Martem colligat, intus habet," is a translation of "his conscience is his strong retreat"? But to comment at large on such defects would be a breach of discipline, and Mr. Millington's Latin shall pass without remonstrance. Much of it, to do him justice, is distinctly graceful and ingenious. A short specimen must suffice, but it is a good one. The following lines (from 'Aylmer's Field'),

A dagger, in rich sheath with jewels on it,  
Sprinkled about with gold that branched itself  
Fine as ice-ferns on January panes  
Made by a breath,

are rendered:—

Unus erat mucro, stellatus inaspide multa,  
Vaginam inspersus signis, inspersus et auro;  
Quale decus, bruma glaciem glomerante, fenestris  
Addit anhelantum vapor, inscriptisque figuras  
Multitudas filicuin.

In the absence of a larger and more expensive volume, the *Tourist's Guide to Worcester-shire*, by Mr. R. N. Worth (Stanford), is thoroughly sufficient. Its archeological notes are unexpectedly copious and trustworthy, their materials being selected with knowledge not often discoverable in works of the sort, and marked by a just appreciation of things which were, as well as of things which are. Mr. Worth rightly laments the utterly wanton dismantling of the Guesten Hall. Worcester Cathedral has been thoroughly "restored," in the popular sense of the term, and with the usual results; the remnants of St. Clement's Church on the Upper Quay were removed "because the materials would come in useful for the erection of some dismal rooms for the master of an adjoining ragged school"; and the "Norman arches of St. John's Church were pointed to give the occupants of a gallery a sight of the clergyman." "The Curiosities of Restoration," a book yet to be written, will surely comprise an interesting chapter on the misdeeds of the "Faithful City."

*Heroines of Scotland*, by Robert Scott Fittis (Faisley, Gardner), treats of Lilliard of Ancrum, Fair Helen of Kirkconnel, Bessie Bell and Mary Gray, and thirteen others. Fair Helen, we are told, "was young, only in early womanhood, with a form of exquisite grace and features cast in a mould of simple yet heart-enthraling loveliness, lighted by a pair of eyes that rivalled the azure of the summer welkin." *Ex unâ discite omnes.*

DR. W. N. DER RIED'S *Essai Bibliographique concernant tout ce qui a paru dans les Pays Bas au sujet et en faveur des Vaudois* (the Hague, Nijhoff) is further evidence of the recent renewal of interest in the history of the Vaudois. It contains in 123 titles the works on this subject which have appeared in the Low Countries from 1616 to 1888, magazine articles being excluded. The seventeenth century, to which the majority of the entries belong, is, of

course, not that of special interest to the students of Vaudois literature and dogma. It is the period of forgery and Lutheran inoculation. Still, this bibliography will be of real value to those who seek to disentangle the primitive current of Waldensian heresy from Hussite and Lutheran influence. The Leyden librarian in his preface tells us that he has not been able to realize the bibliographic ideal of seeing all the works whose titles he gives. We would the more readily pardon him this defect if he had distinctly marked those books he has actually had in his hands and those he has not, and if he had told us the libraries in which those he has seen may be found. He writes:—

"Sans doute, la plupart des écrits mentionnés dans notre liste se trouvent, soit à la Bibliothèque wallonne, soit dans d'autres bibliothèques de ce pays; cependant plusieurs des titres que nous donnons ne nous sont parvenus que de seconde main."

How hopeless is this for the scholar who wants with the least expenditure of energy to consult a given work! Surely we might have expected a librarian to have been more conversant with the fundamentals of bibliography. The pamphlet ought to contain a photogravure of a copper engraving representing allegorically the reception of the Vaudois in the Low Countries, occurring in a tract of 1731. In the copy sent to us for review this photogravure is missing, and we cannot, therefore, report on its value.

MR. NODAL has printed a bibliography of Ackworth School, the Quaker seminary at which Mr. Bright was educated. The chief authors—to confine ourselves to the dead—who came out of Ackworth School were W. Howitt (who has left behind a doleful account of what the school was in his day) and the brothers Wiffen.

A PRETTY volume has been issued containing *An Order of Prayer for Use in the Royal College of St. Peter, Westminster*. It contains a reprint of the service drawn up in Elizabeth's time, as well as the English prayers used in the service in the Abbey. The service "in commendatione Fundatricis et Benefactorum" will be given in the Abbey on the evening of November 18th with Gregorian music.

THE reports of the free libraries at Bradford, Kensington, Leeds, and Nottingham have reached us. From Bradford comes a complaint of lack of money. At Leeds there is a lack of space. At Nottingham the report of the college is printed along with that of the free library, not a wise arrangement. The Central Lending Library has, apparently, been closed during the whole year, or a great part of it; but the report is by no means clearly drawn up. The Kensington report is the first issued. An instalment of the catalogue of the valuable reference library at Birmingham has also been forwarded.

WE have on our table *The Republic of Uruguay, 1888-9* (Consulate General, London),—*Guide to Norway and Sweden* (J. P. Murray),—*A Short Geography of Africa*, by the late K. Johnston, edited by E. G. Ravenstein (Stanford),—*Outlines of Medieval and Modern History*, by P. V. N. Myers (Ginn),—*Some Account of the Guild of Weavers in Bristol, chiefly from MSS.*, edited by F. F. Fox and John Taylor (Bristol, George's Sons),—*Coins, Catalogue No. 3, Sultans of Delhi*, by E. Thurston (Madras, Government Press),—*Arithmetical Reviews*, by J. L. Patterson (Ginn),—*Chambers's Examination Book-keeping*, by J. Bell (Chambers),—*Moffatt's Deductions from Euclid* (Moffatt & Paige),—*A Prose Translation of the Second Book of the Æneid of Vergil*, by H. T. Dufton (Berryman),—*The Plays of Shakespeare: The Second Part of Henry IV.*, edited by A. D. Innes (Rivington),—*Murby's Scholars' Annotated Edition of Shakespeare's Henry V.*, edited by R. Mongan (Murby),—*The English Home Almanack, 1890* (Grevel),—*Seventh Report of the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851* (Eyre & Spottiswoode),—*Signalling Regulations*, compiled by Sergeant-Major F. W. Sibbald (Chatham, Gale & Polden),—On



the Causes, Treatment, and Cure of Stammering, by A. G. Bernard (Churchill).—*Harvey's Circulation of the Blood*, edited by A. Bowie, M.D. (Bell).—*A Contribution to the Surgery of the Spinal Cord*, by W. Thorburn (Griffin).—*Choosing a Calling*, by J. P. Collings (Educational Supply Association, 42A, Holborn Viaduct).—*Life's Stages*, by J. Stark (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier).—*The Maid of Orleans*, by W. H. Davenport Adams (Hutchinson).—*Laurel Crowns*, by Emma Marshall (Nisbet).—*Golden Sunshine Story Book*, by M. Evelyn (Ward & Lock).—*The Veiled Picture*, by E. J. Lysaght (Simpkin).—*Eena Romney*, by M. Felton (Griffith & Farran).—*A Blue-Grass Thoroughbred*, by T. Johnson (Drane).—*A Change of Clothes*, by A. F. King (Simpkin).—*Kilgarvie*, by R. F. Hardy (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier).—*An Odd Man's Story*, by J. G. Ascher (Stock).—*The Browning Reciter*, edited by A. H. Miles (Hutchinson).—*Autumn Leaves*, by E. J. Naish (St. Ives, Jarman & Gregory).—*The History and Management of Sunday Schools*, by J. Palmer, Parts I. and II. (C.E.S.S.I.).—*The First Communicant's Manual of Preparation*, by the Rev. D. Gallery, S.J. (Dublin, Gill).—*Christ or Confucius, Which?* by the Rev. J. Macgowan (London Missionary Society).—*To Meet the Day through the Christian Year*, by the Author of 'The Recreations of a Country Parson' (Longmans).—*Dumas's Les Trois Mousquetaires*, edited by F. C. Sumichrast (Ginn).—*Die Heiligen Englands*, by F. Liebermann (Hanover, Hahn).—*and Die Menschenseele*, by L. Carnio (Vienna, Konegen). Among New Editions we have *Manliness, and other Sermons*, by H. S. Brown (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier).—*The Divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*, by H. P. Liddon, D.D. (Rivingtons).—*Sixth Reader for Standards VI. and VII.* (Cassell).—*The Elements of Physiography*, by J. J. Prince, Part I. (J. Heywood).—*Sheridan*, by Mrs. Oliphant (Macmillan).—*Outlines of French History*, by H. Ince and J. Gilbert, revised by A. Hassall (Allen & Co.).—*and The Colours of Infantry* (Chatham, Gale & Polden).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

*Theology.*  
Copingier's (W. A.) A Treatise on Predestination, Election, and Grace, demy 8vo, 10/6 cl.  
Deane's (Rev. W. J.) Joshua, his Life and Times, cr. 8vo, 2/3  
Elwin's (Rev. W.) The Minister of Baptism, a History of Church Opinion, &c., 8vo, 12/ cl.  
Goodwin's (H.) The Foundations of the Creed, 8vo, 14/ cl.  
Haines's (C. R.) Islam as a Missionary Religion, 12mo, 2/ cl. (Non-Christian Religious Systems.)  
Howatt's (J. R.) Children's Angel, a Year's Sermons and Parables for the Young, 12mo, 2/6 cl.  
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Handbook to the Lunacy Acts Amendment, 1889, 8vo, 5/ cl.  
Morton's (J. N.) An Analysis of the Universities, Scotland, Act, 1859, 8vo, 3/ cl.  
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Blunt's (W. S.) A New Pilgrimage, and other Poems, 5/ cl.  
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Bury's (J. B.) History of the Later Roman Empire, 2 vols. 8vo, 32/ cl.  
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Irving's (J.) Annals of our Time, a Diurnal of Events from Feb. 24, 1871, to Jubilee, June 20, 1887, 8vo, 18/ half bound; Supplement, 1878 to 1887, 9/ half bound.  
Josephus, Works of, Whiston's Translation, revised by Rev. A. R. Shilleto, 3 vols. cr. 8vo, 3/6 each, cl.  
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## General Literature.

Aicard (J.): Don Juan 89, 3fr. 50.

## SOME MISSING POEMS OF SIR JOHN BEAUMONT.

October 29, 1889.

In the copy of 'Bosworth-field: with a Taste of the Variety of other Poems, left by Sir John Beaumont.....' 1629, in the Dyce Library, South Kensington Museum, Mr. Dyce has written the following note: "The leaf containing pp. 181-2 is wanting in almost all the copies. A reprint of that leaf is inserted in the present copy." The poem on p. 181 of this reprint is headed 'Of the Death of the Most Noble the Lord Marquess Hamilton,' fourteen lines; that on p. 182, 'Upon a Funerall,' ten lines. The autograph of "J. P. Collier" is on the title-page of the Dyce copy. R. F. S.

St. Leonards, Oct. 28, 1889.

A FRIEND has just pointed out to me the following entry in Messrs. Willis & Sotheran's 'Catalogue of upwards of Fifty Thousand Volumes of Ancient and Modern Books,' issued in 1862, at p. 40, "No. 1007":—

"Beaumont's (Sir J.) Bosworth Field: with a Taste of the variety of other Poems, 12mo. calf gilt, 17. 1s. 1629. Mr. Mitford notes that this copy contains the exceedingly rare cancelled leaf, pp. 181-2. It is, however, the reprint of the leaf. We have never seen the original."

It will be observed that Messrs. Willis & Sotheran say "the reprint," not "a reprint," so that presumably they were already aware such a thing existed; and if not the catalogued copy, some other may be unearthed for comparison with the newly discovered MS. There may, besides, be copies of the original leaf lurking in more places than one, for though it was doubtless cut out of all copies sold, the Beaumonts probably kept and gave away to friends some intact copies of the book. Mr. Kenyon has started an interesting paper-chase. J. DYKES CAMPBELL.



## ADMIRAL BENBOW.

The following petition, preserved among the State Papers of Queen Anne's reign, seems to have escaped the notice of the compiler of Benbow's history in the new 'Dictionary of National Biography,' as it supplies some additional facts touching the admiral's affairs and his family, which would fitly have found a place in the memoir. The petition is undated, but for some unexplained reason the document is bound up with other petitions and papers of various dates in 1710 and 1711. There is no order or other paper concerning it attached which would show that any regard was paid to the appeal.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty The humble Petition of Martha Benbow widow, the Relict of the late Admirall Benbow deceased.

Sheweth

That your Petitioners sufferings have been inexpressibly great, as well by the loss of her said husband, after all the faithfull services he performed; As also by the want of his Papers and Accounts, which were lost with him, and were never returned to your Petitioner; By which meanes, she hath had a considerable summe stopt from her, on the passing of her husband's Accounts, and the remainder of the money allow'd her on that account is still unpaid; Nor could your Petitioner ever yet obtain any proportion of the prizes taken by her said husband in his life time, by computation amounting to the value of about 18,000*l.* for his part thereof; Nor was any thing ever brought home to your Petitioner and her 5 children, after his death. In consideration of all which; And forasmuch as your Petitioner had a son in law in the West Indies, Mr. Thomas Stringer, merchant, who hath met with great disappointments, and went over to Jamaica to look after his effects, and now is obliged to stay there.

Your Petitioner most humbly implores your Majesty would be graciously pleas'd to constitute her said son in law your Majesty's Store-keeper or Victualler in those parts, Or otherwise to provide for him, with some suitable employment, as to your Majesty in your Princely Wisdom shall seem meet: And likewise that your Majesty would be pleas'd in due time to provide better for her eldest surviving son, Mr. William Benbow, who is only at present imployed as a clerk in your Majesty's Navy Office. And as in duty bound she will ever pray, &c.

## MR. ADDISON: AN UNPUBLISHED NOTE.

The following letter and extract are taken from a series of 140 letters (1691-1709) in my possession to John Postlethwayt, head master of St. Martin's School, and chief master of St. Paul's School from 1697 to 1713, a noted scholar of his day, from his pupil and protégé John Wallis:—

HONOUR'D FATHER,—I have sent you this morning to y<sup>e</sup> Swan upon Holborn Bridge, by Edw. Bartlett's Waggon, 3 Volumes of y<sup>e</sup> Musæ Anglicanæ, publish'd y<sup>e</sup> last week. The Book, which is Bound, I desire you to take y<sup>e</sup> first Opportunity of presenting, with my most humble Duty, to his Grace, lest I should be forestall'd by His Lordship's receiving it from some other Hand. One of 'em I request You to accept as a New-year's Gift, tho' I must confess y<sup>e</sup> Slowness of the Press has made it come somewhat of y<sup>e</sup> latest. In that directed to Yourself, you will find y<sup>e</sup> Names of y<sup>e</sup> true Authors written with my own hand under all y<sup>e</sup> Poems, which either have None, or bear Those of other Persons. You will oblige me by delivering y<sup>e</sup> Third to your Honour'd Bro: Mr. Wright, with my most humble Respects.

But if y<sup>e</sup> Publick Cares should ever allow His Grace Leisure to look over such Trifles, He will be surpriz'd that I shou'd present a Book to Him, in which I have no Part, unless you will be pleas'd to inform his L<sup>d</sup>ship y<sup>e</sup> I was principally concern'd in collecting & publishing y<sup>e</sup> Volume. Tho' my Name be not affix'd to so much as a single Page, yet 'tis a sufficient Boast for me, that not a small number of lines in the most shining Poems, I mean Mr. Addison's, are intirely mine. Pardon me y<sup>e</sup> little Vanity & Self-Complacency of this Discovery, because 'tis y<sup>e</sup> same Thing as if I shou'd acquaint You that y<sup>e</sup> best Latin Poet, whom This age has produced, dos me y<sup>e</sup> Honour to submit his Compositions to me. You will meet among y<sup>e</sup> rest a Copy of mine, which You have been formerly troubled with, but very different from what it was at first, and, unless my Friends here flatter me, not alter'd for y<sup>e</sup> worse. I leave it to your Judgment, whether You will place it above y<sup>e</sup> Rank of y<sup>e</sup> Indifferent. The Gentleman, whose name it bears, paid me for it, nor shall I in y<sup>e</sup> least envy him

y<sup>e</sup> little Reputation he will get by it, which I'm sure wou'd prove a much less satisfactory Reward to

Y<sup>r</sup> most Obedient Son, J. W.

Oxon', Feb. 13th, 69.

When your Occasions call You towards Fleet-street, I must ask y<sup>e</sup> Favour of you to pay to Mr. Cave Wiseman, Haberdasher, at y<sup>e</sup> Black Horse within 3 doors of Fleet-bridge on y<sup>e</sup> Temple-side, for a Hat which I formerly had of him. The Price, I suppose will be about 11 shillings. I must further request of You to give him a Crown, and to take of him in my name a Ticket in his Hat-Lottery. y<sup>e</sup> Number of which You may let me know when You oblige me with a Letter. Both these Sums I desire You to deduct from y<sup>e</sup> Allowance which you shall be pleas'd to send me next.

Just as I had finish'd this Letter, my Messenger return'd yesterday, and told me y<sup>e</sup> Carrier was gone. Wherefore I was forc'd to keep y<sup>e</sup> Books above-mention'd till this morning, & have now sent 'em by Moor's Coach, which puts up at y<sup>e</sup> Oxford Arms in Warwick-Lane. I have not paid y<sup>e</sup> Carriage.

Ye 14th.

Extract from a letter dated "Maudlin's May 2<sup>d</sup>, 99":—

(The same to the same.)

I desire You to accept our new Edition of Thecritus. You will receive it from Mr. Addison, who took Coach this morning for London, whither he was summon'd by my Lord Chancellor, from whom he receiv'd a Proposal of travelling to some foreign Courts at His M<sup>ty</sup>'s Expence. I need not ask you to show all imaginable Civilities to a Person of His extraordinary Character and distinguish'd Merit, but give me leave to desire you, that you wou'd, on my acc<sup>t</sup>, make Him an Offer of your Service, because he has been pleas'd always to honour me with a particular Intimacy and Friendship.

John Wallis was educated at St. Martin's School. Having been first placed by his parents in the Jesuits' school at the Savoy, Dr. Postlethwayt, knowing him to be a youth of uncommon genius, exerted himself to have him put under his care. The parents dying soon after, he maintained him both at school and at the university. John Wallis was entered of Wadham College, Oxford, under Dr. Humphrey Hody, in 1691, who describes him in a letter to his patron, dated June 25th, 1691:—

"He is certainly the best Schollar that ever I knew enter'd of the College. He acquits himself in all things extremely well both in manners and learning."

He was elected into Magdalen in 1693, and appointed Arabic Student, together with Benjamin Marshall (another pupil of Dr. Postlethwayt), by royal warrant in 1699. In 1704 he was admitted into a Fellowship of his college, and in 1706 became Vicar of Faringdon, Berks. I gather from another set of letters to Matthew Postlethwayt, nephew and heir of the chief master, that he was Rector of Everly, Wilts, from 1731 to 1734. Eminent scholar as he was, doubtless his chief claim for distinction is his friendship with Addison. A. HARTSHORNE.

## EDITIONS OF 'MARMION.'

MR. M. MACMILLAN is quite right in his surmise that I never saw his Bombay edition of 'Marmion.' Perhaps, therefore, it is superfluous to add that I could not have such edition in my mind when preparing the poem for the Clarendon Press Series. But why did Mr. Macmillan not assail Mr. Rolfe in his edition published in 1887? That would have been the place to check the punctuation in question, and exclaims, "We may safely assert that this passage has never been correctly pointed until now." If Mr. Macmillan lets this pass after two years for deliberation, he should hardly blame others for walking into Mr. Rolfe's trap.

THOMAS BAYNE.

## THE PROVINCIAL COLLEGES AND THE REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

THE decision of the conference of representatives of provincial University Colleges, held a week or two back at Birmingham, to offer strong opposition to the report of the Royal Commis-

sioners "appointed to inquire whether any and what kind of new university or powers is or are required for the advancement of higher education in London," will cause little or no surprise to any who have read the report in question, though to some their attitude may need explanation. Perhaps the Commissioners themselves may be included in this latter category, since the report treats the colleges with a brusqueness which can only be the result of inadequate information as to the extent of their work in connexion with the University of London.

A cardinal point to be borne in mind in the present controversy is that the University of London is, and has been, so only in name and in topographical position. Neither in the way of residence nor of receipt of education have its students any necessary connexion with the metropolis; they need not even go thither for the purposes of examination. Their connexion with it may be entirely titular. The University examiners are not necessarily teachers of any of the examinees; they are not necessarily teachers at all—may never have given a thought to practical teaching work. They are drawn from anywhere in the three kingdoms. From the point of view both of examiners and of examinees, the present University of London is, and has always been, simply an imperial examining board, receiving all comers, and submitting them impartially to the same tests. Every teaching centre in the three kingdoms has had, theoretically at least, the same position with regard to the University as the two great London colleges themselves, i.e., *quâ* teaching centres they have equally had no position at all. Any influence they may have had in the councils of the University has been influence obtained and exerted through some personal factor. Equality has been absolute.

Now, from the outset, this cardinal point of equality was apparently overlooked by the Royal Commissioners, owing, no doubt, to the scope of their inquiry including several distinct investigations. Hence an exclusion of the provincial colleges from the serious consideration of the Commissioners, which was natural from the point of view of at least one of these investigations, was made practically complete throughout.

In an inquiry into the question of whether or no a new and teaching university for London should be established, composed of certain metropolitan colleges, the provincial colleges manifestly had no definite status. The teachers thereof might, as educationists, have views for or against an increase in the number of degree-giving bodies, but as colleges they would have no *locus standi*.

As to the right of the provincial colleges, as medical schools, to be heard, and seriously heard, upon the advisability of incorporating the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons into a new, and strictly medical, degree-giving body, it is conceivable that there can be two opinions.

But in proposing the reconstruction of the existing University of London, giving to certain colleges a special and preponderating share in its government, and to their students, and through them their teachers, certain important privileges, it appears to me to have been the clear duty of the Royal Commissioners to have requested evidence as to the probable effect that a destruction of present equality would have upon the colleges excluded from the direct operation of the scheme. Surely something more might have been expected than the cur reference to this matter (p. xiii) as one to which "we cannot attach practical weight," and the mere statement that, with certain supposed safeguards, "there will be no risk of any practical injustice being done to candidates for degrees who come from country colleges, or from no colleges at all. Nothing will be taken from either class which it now possesses, or has any right to claim. It is not reasonable that country colleges should have a negative voice upon the enlargement of the

present University for teaching purposes, especially concerning the metropolis." In the evidence taken by the Commission I look in vain for the source of these references, and can therefore only assume their origin in the inner consciousness of the Royal Commissioners themselves.

It is self-evident that the Commissioners did not appreciate the educational importance in the University of London system of the associated provincial University Colleges, although an idea of it could have been acquired by a cursory glance at any examination list of the University. Further, few of these colleges have yet got into their "teens," and it is improbable that the personal acquaintance of the Commissioners extends to many of them. May I give a few figures, therefore, to illustrate this all-important consideration? I select at random the year 1887, and for the purpose of comparison group together, on the one hand, the various colleges, hospitals, and schools in the London district, and, on the other hand, those in the provinces, premising that I exclude from these latter students from the various colleges at Oxford and Cambridge, and that I also exclude the matriculation examination, as belonging too largely to the school period of student life. The following table gives the results with substantial, though possibly not complete accuracy:—

	London.	Provinces.
Pass—Intermediate Arts	45	72
" Science	31	25
" Prel. Sci. and Mathematics of Int. Science	15	11
" Prel. Sci. (entire examination)	47	39
Honours—Int. Arts and Science	38	50
" B.A.	14	12
" B.Sc.	13	19
Total	263	228

These totals may be looked upon as approximately equal for the two groups. I have not made any such comparison for 1888 or (thus far) 1889; but bearing in mind that ten years ago hardly a provincial University College was in existence, and that their work for the University of London is progressing by leaps and bounds (in the Mason College, for instance, having nearly doubled in the last three years), there can be little doubt what the more recent figures would be.

Not unfairly, then, we may assume that the provincial University Colleges are represented at the University of London at the present time by an annual body of systematically trained students at least equal in quantity and in quality to those who owe their training to the metropolitan group, with their magnificently equipped satellites the hospital schools, and that, so far as time produces changes, they are in favour of the former group. As a body, therefore, the interests of the provincial colleges in the present University are at least equal to those of their metropolitan competitors, and the contention is demonstrable that any attempt to change the present University from a University of London to a University for London would be prejudicial to the existing status and future prospects of the provincial colleges.

Did the Royal Commissioners realize that, just as the universities of Oxford and Cambridge are rivals, so all these colleges, metropolitan and provincial alike, are to some extent competitors for the same students, without the sentimental attractions which give to the old universities a kind of hereditary claim upon family worship? In these modern days distance is of little or no importance to a student who is going away from home for the purpose of studying for a degree. Unless within easy daily reach, the exact position of a college is of secondary interest to, at any rate, a very considerable proportion of students. That this is the case any college register will readily prove. As it is, the college to which a student is sent is determined by a consensus of reasons; and can any reasonable person, with a knowledge of parental or of

student tendencies, for one instant doubt that the possession, for example, of such a privilege as exemption of its students from all the earlier examinations for the highly prized degrees of the University of London, would be a most important addition to this consensus of reasons? Teachers may struggle as they will to persuade folk that it is not the degree which is of real value, but the systematic training which has led up to it; to the public mind the degree is the end, and, *ceteris paribus*, that course will be most readily adopted which appears to promise the degree with the least difficulty.

Before concluding this brief and imperfect sketch of the position as it affects the provincial colleges, may I be allowed to point out most emphatically that the position of these colleges is in no way whatever antagonistic to the aspirations of the two great metropolitan colleges? To put it plainly, their desire for a separate charter is no concern of ours, at least in any corporate sense. I think I may fairly say that the great majority of the members of the teaching staffs of the provincial colleges look upon their exertions with, to say the least, friendly interest.

Lastly, in certain circles attempts have been made to confuse our position by reference to schemes for the establishment of still other universities, to wit, one for the Midlands and south-western counties and another for Wales. Whatever the growth of university education in the future may bring forth, the time is not yet ripe for the formal initiation of either of these movements. Even their most ardent advocates look forward to the lapse of a decade of years before these proposals come within the range of "practical politics"; and hence their importation into the present controversy can only be for the purpose of blinding the public mind as to the real questions at issue between the report of the Royal Commissioners and the provincial colleges of England and Wales. W. HILLHOUSE.

SIR RICHARD STEELE.

MR. AITKEN writes with regard to his 'Life of Richard Steele':—

"The writer in the *Athenæum* expresses a doubt whether Steele had been made a captain by 1700, and this doubt certainly seems to receive support from Steele's answer in the suit instituted against him by Sansome, in which Steele says that soon after January, 1702, he 'was made Captain of Foot by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, in pursuance of a list made by King William, in the Lord Lucas's Regiment of Foot.' But this may only mean that Steele received a captaincy in the new regiment, and does not prove that he had not been a captain for some time under Lord Cutts. In support of this view we have the fact that Sir Richard Blackmore wrote of Steele in 1700 as 'the Noble Captain,' and that in June of the same year Luttrell described him as 'capt. Steele, of the Lord Cutts regiment.' Moreover, in two copies that I have seen of the 'Commemorative Verses' to which Blackmore was replying, there is an entry in contemporary writing, opposite the lines by Steele, of his name, with the title 'Captain' or 'Cap.' Finally, in the advertisements of the 'Christian Hero' in the newspapers of April, 1701, the author is described as 'Captain Richard Steele.'"

Mr. Aitken's reply contains no satisfactory proof in favour of his assertion that in 1700 Steele was already a captain. We have stated that Sir Richard Blackmore cannot be considered an authority on military matters; nor can the fact that Steele was styled captain in Luttrell's diary in 1700, and in an advertisement of 1701, be received as trustworthy evidence on the subject. In our own day the aide de camp of a general officer has a sort of courtesy rank as captain, and this custom may perhaps have prevailed in Steele's time, but it has never been officially recognized. In his "answer" to Sansome it is clearly stated by Steele that he "was made [i.e., promoted] Captain of Foot..... in the Lord Lucas's Regiment of Foot." Mr. Aitken himself informs us that the regiment was raised in 1702. To any one versed in military matters this evidence is almost conclusive.

M. COBET.

WE regret to hear of the death of the first Greek scholar in Europe. Born in Paris, the son of one of Napoleon's officials, C. G. Cobet, though of Dutch descent and educated in Holland, always evinced a good deal of the French type of mind. His love of clearness and system, his intolerance of anomalies, his exceeding activity of mind, are all French rather than Dutch characteristics. But with Holland his fame is identified. He became a professor at Leyden over forty years ago, and he revived the fame of that university for Greek scholarship, which had declined since the retirement of Wyttenbach. Cobet was no mere *érudit*; he was a man of real originality, and that rare thing, a scholar of genius. He created a distinct school of criticism, he gathered a number of able disciples about him, and in *Mnemosyne* he founded a periodical second to none among journals that concern themselves with classics.

Cobet collected from palaeographical study a vast mass of information about the mistakes of scribes; for example, wrong expansion of contractions,—non-expansion of contractions,—dittography,—omission of letters or syllables before or after the same letter or syllable,—confusion of  $\Lambda\Lambda$  and  $\text{NI}$ ,  $\text{IN}$  with  $\text{M}$ ; of  $\text{A}$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  $\Omega$ ; of  $\text{IC}$  ( $\text{is}$ ) and  $\text{K}$ ; of  $\text{I}$ ,  $\text{P}$ , and so on,—wrong filling up of *lacunæ*,—wrong division of words and clauses; and these *data* he applied with singular acuteness in his criticism of ancient authors.

His power of defending his points by quotations from all Greek literature was remarkable. He brought a tremendous apparatus to bear on a vast number of passages with intense ingenuity, but he cannot have had time to study all the contexts and special circumstances of so many passages. Hence he often altered a deviation from a normal construction when closer study might have enabled him (or another) to explain the deviation. A good example of his method is to be found in Xenophon's 'Econom.' v. § 12,  $\eta\gamma\gamma\theta\epsilon\lambda\omicron\nu\sigma\tau\alpha < \eta\gamma\gamma\theta\epsilon\omicron\nu\sigma\tau\alpha < \eta\gamma\gamma\theta\epsilon\omicron\nu\sigma\tau\alpha < \eta\gamma\gamma\theta\epsilon\omicron\nu\sigma\tau\alpha$  ('Var. Lectt.', 1854, p. 9). Another is a correction in Photius,  $\lambda\epsilon\mu\phi\alpha\varsigma$ :  $\pi\acute{\epsilon}\pi\omega\kappa\alpha\varsigma$ , 'corrigere  $\lambda\epsilon\lambda\alpha\phi\alpha\varsigma$ ' (*ib.* p. 366).

The following examples of Cobet's besetting sin of over-confidence may be given. Homeric scholars have not accepted his dictum  $\eta\rho\acute{o}\mu\eta\nu\ \text{non}\ \eta\rho\acute{o}\mu\eta\nu$  (*Miscell. Crit.* lxxvi. p. 400). Nor can we accept  $\delta\nu\acute{\alpha}\nu\mu\epsilon\iota\ \gamma\acute{\alpha}\rho\ \tau\alpha\upsilon\tau\alpha\ \mu\acute{\epsilon}\gamma\iota\sigma\tau\alpha\ \delta\eta\ \epsilon\phi\acute{\alpha}\nu\eta$  for  $\delta\gamma\tau\mu\delta\iota\epsilon\phi\acute{\alpha}\nu\eta$ , Thuc. i. 18 § 5 ('Var. Lectt.', 1873, p. 429). Three such passages as  $\acute{\alpha}\sigma\alpha\phi\acute{\eta}\ \tau\eta\nu\ \epsilon\lambda\epsilon\upsilon\theta\epsilon\rho\iota\acute{\alpha}\nu$  (Thuc. iv. 96),  $\epsilon\nu\acute{o}\mu\iota\sigma\alpha\nu\ \kappa\rho\alpha\tau\eta\sigma\alpha\iota$  (Thuc. ii. 5),  $\nu\omicron\mu\acute{\iota}\zeta\omicron\nu\tau\epsilon\varsigma\ \rho\acute{\iota}\omicron\nu\sigma\phi\iota\sigma\iota\ \pi\rho\omicron\chi\omega\rho\epsilon\acute{\iota}\nu$ , should be brought together to support each other, not all three altered as Cobet alters them:  $\acute{\alpha}\nu\ \sigma\alpha\phi\acute{\eta}$ — $\kappa\rho\alpha\tau\eta\sigma\alpha\iota$ — $\rho\acute{\iota}\omicron\nu\sigma\phi\iota\sigma\iota$ .

Another passage from 'Various Readings' of 1873 may be worth quoting:—

"In 'Ione,' v. 378:—  
 $\acute{\alpha}\nu\ \gamma\acute{\alpha}\rho\ \beta\iota\acute{\alpha}\ \sigma\pi\epsilon\iota\delta\omicron\mu\epsilon\nu\ \acute{\alpha}\kappa\omicron\nu\tau\omega\nu\ \theta\epsilon\omega\nu$   
 $\acute{\alpha}\kappa\omicron\nu\tau\alpha\ \kappa\epsilon\tau\acute{\eta}\mu\epsilon\sigma\theta\alpha\ \tau\acute{\alpha}\gamma\alpha\theta\prime$ ,  $\acute{\omega}\ \gamma\acute{\iota}\nu\alpha\iota$ ,  
sententia postulat idem quod est in 'Medea':—  
 $\kappa\alpha\kappa\acute{o}\upsilon\ \gamma\acute{\alpha}\rho\ \acute{\alpha}\nu\delta\rho\acute{o}\varsigma\ \delta\omicron\delta\rho\prime\ \delta\eta\eta\sigma\iota\nu\ \omicron\upsilon\kappa\ \epsilon\chi\epsilon\iota$ ,  
et apud Sophoclem:—

$\epsilon\chi\theta\rho\acute{\alpha}\nu\ \acute{\alpha}\delta\omega\rho\alpha\ \delta\omicron\delta\rho\alpha\ \kappa\omicron\upsilon\kappa\ \delta\eta\eta\sigma\iota\mu\alpha$ ,  
quid igitur? 'ANONHTA  $\kappa\epsilon\tau\acute{\eta}\mu\epsilon\sigma\theta\alpha$ ."  
Wakefield and Matthiae write  $\omicron\upsilon\kappa\ \delta\eta\eta\sigma\iota\mu\alpha$ , while Paley anticipated the suggestion  $\acute{\alpha}\nu\omicron\eta\eta\tau\alpha$ .

In his 'Collectanea Crit.', 1878, p. 193, Cobet accepts Bischoff's alteration of 'Antigone,' 1055,  $\tau\acute{o}\ \delta\prime\ \acute{\epsilon}\kappa\ \tau\acute{\upsilon}\rho\alpha\nu\omicron\nu\ \acute{\alpha}\iota\sigma\chi\rho\omicron\kappa\epsilon\rho\delta\iota\alpha\nu\ \phi\iota\lambda\epsilon\iota$ , to  $\tau\acute{o}\ \delta\acute{\epsilon}\ \gamma\epsilon\ \tau\alpha\phi\epsilon$ ; and he further alters, writing  $\tau\acute{\upsilon}\rho\alpha\nu\omicron\nu$  and defending the adjectival use. Prof. Jebb rightly defends the text. But even where Cobet went wrong, his errors were the errors of a great scholar.



## Literary Gossip.

MR. RIDER HAGGARD is planning a story on the subject of Queen Esther.

M. RENAN's third volume of the history of Israel is in the printer's hands.

MISS MATHILDE BLIND's translation of the journal of Marie Bashkirtseff is nearly finished, and will be published by Messrs. Cassell shortly after Christmas. Miss Blind will contribute an introduction. She was the first to write of Marie Bashkirtseff in England—in the *Woman's World* for June and August, 1888. We see a couple of American periodicals publish this month articles on the diary. Probably the able editors have had these articles by them for some time, but, never having heard of Marie Bashkirtseff, did not put them in type till reassured by Mr. Gladstone's contribution to the *Nineteenth Century*.

A LIFE of Mary W. Shelley, by Mrs. William Rossetti, is in the publishers' hands, and will form the next volume of the "Eminent Women Series." The work is said to contain much new and unpublished information about the Shelleys, Lord Byron, and other celebrities.

WE are glad to say that Mr. George Bentley has so far recovered from his recent illness that he was able to be present at his trade dinner the other night.

WE believe that Mr. G. A. Aitken, whose important 'Life of Steele,' reviewed in our columns a fortnight ago, is in harmony with the best literary traditions of the Post Office, recently made an unsuccessful application to be transferred into the Public Record Office, where his antiquarian tastes had already rendered him a *persona grata* in the Literary Search Room.

'MAYGROVE: A FAMILY HISTORY,' by Mr. Fraser Rae, will appear in a few days, with a preface explaining the circumstances in which it and 'Miss Bayle's Romance' and 'A Modern Brigand' were written, and containing some remarks on his critics. It is said that the article in the current number of the *Quarterly* on 'The Principality of Monaco' is from Mr. Fraser Rae's pen.

THE publishing house of George Routledge & Sons, which was started by the late Mr. George Routledge in the year 1835, is, in consequence of his death, to be turned into a limited liability company. The whole of the preference and ordinary shares, amounting to 200,000*l.*, will remain in the hands of the present partners in the firm (Messrs. Robert W. Routledge and Edmund Routledge), who will be the managing directors of the new company.

MR. GEORGE H. JESSOP's 'Gerald Ffrench's Friends,' which Messrs. Longman & Co. are going to publish soon, consists of sketches of Irish character as it flourishes on the Pacific coast of the United States. Mr. Jessop's book is a humorous study of "Hibernian heredity as modified by the Californian environment." This has the advantage, at any rate, of being a subject new to literature.

MESSRS. W. & R. CHAMBERS will shortly publish the first three volumes of a new series of their "Shilling Library for Young People." The names of them are 'Their Happiest Christmas,' by Edna Lyall;

'Fireside Amusements: a Book of Indoor Games'; and 'The Steadfast Gabriel: a Tale of Wichnor Wood,' by the late Mary Howitt.

THE first of the new series of publications of the Spenser Society is an improvement upon any previous issue at double the price. It consists of part i. of Drayton's 'Polyolbion,' reprinted from the edition of 1613-1622. The handsome title-page and scarce portrait of Prince Henry by Hole and the curious maps are executed in facsimile. A great addition to the attraction of the series attends the change that has at length been made in the paper. So successful is this experiment, it may be hoped that the Society will see its way to completing the works of George Wither by reprinting the 'Emblems' with the illustrations of Crispin de Pas.

THE first illustrated Christmas book issued by the Religious Tract Society in 1825 will shortly be republished at the Leadenhall Press. In the introduction Dr. Green will give some account of the early literature and work of the Society, with references to past and present Christmas books, and illustrations of various kinds.

THE Dean of Llandaff has in the press an edition of 'The Epistle to the Hebrews' with notes. It will form a companion volume to that of 'The Epistle to the Romans,' by the same editor, of which the sixth edition was published in 1885. Dr. Vaughan's work will be issued by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

A DRAMATIC version of a recent story by Annie S. Swan will shortly be produced. A new story, entitled 'Sheila,' by the same author, will be published by Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier early this month. The title-page informs us, for the first time, that Miss Swan is now Mrs. Burnett Smith.

IN Mr. Percival Leigh, who died last week, *Punch* has lost the oldest of its contributors. He joined the staff soon after the starting of the paper.

MESSRS. METHUEN & Co. are going to publish a new book by Mr. Baring Gould, entitled 'Old Country Life,' in which the author will treat of the old country customs of the last century, old houses, old roads, old country parsons, and old musicians. The book will be fully illustrated.

MRS. AMÉLIE RIVES CHANDLER, author of 'The Quick and the Dead,' is at work in Paris upon a new novel in collaboration with M. Catulle Mendès.

AT a general meeting of the Scottish History Society, held in Edinburgh on Tuesday, it was resolved to publish the following matter: (1) the Court Book of the Barony of Urie (1604-1638 and 1667-1747), from the MS. in possession of Mr. R. Barclay; (2) selections from the Forfeited Estate Papers, in H.M. Register House, illustrating the condition of the Highlands after the rebellion of 1745; and (3) a selection from the Clarke MSS. at Worcester College, Oxford, relating to the military government of Scotland under Lilburne and Monk (1651-1660), to be edited by Mr. C. H. Firth, who is already engaged in preparing a volume or volumes from the same large and almost unused collection for the Camden

Society. Lord Rosebery's presentation volume, 'Lists of Rebels of 1745,' is announced as likely to appear, with a preface from his lordship, in the course of next spring.

THE death is announced in France of Señor Torres Caicedo. He was a native of Colombia, South America, and became a bookseller at Bogota, in which capacity he made a large collection of books relating to America and contributed to bibliography. He was a man of literary tastes, an esteemed poet, and the author of some prose works. Most of his later years were spent in Paris, in an unpaid diplomatic capacity, as a minister for a Central American state. He had been for some time suffering from mental disease.

PROF. MAX MÜLLER writes:—

"You have been informed in a letter from Athens that the Greek Government has resolved to erect a monument in that city in memory of Wilhelm Müller, the poet of the 'Griechenlieder' (1821-24), and the translator of the modern Greek folk-songs in the Fauriel Collection. I believe this is a mistake. The Greek Government has granted a sum of 6,000 francs for supplying the marble for a monument to be erected to my father in his native town of Dessau, where he died in 1827; and as I have been informed that this marble, both the red and the white Pentelion, has just arrived in Germany, this is probably what the writer of your letter was thinking of. The execution of the monument has been entrusted to Prof. Schubert, of Dresden, and the funds have been collected by a national subscription in Germany and by numerous contributions from friends in England, France, Italy, and the United States of America."

DR. DASTUR JAMASPI MINOCHEERJI JAMASPI ASANA, M.A., High Priest of the Parsis of Bombay, has presented to the Bodleian Library a MS. of the Yasna with Pahlavi translation, written 692 of the era of Yazdegerd=1323 A.D., only twenty years later than the famous MS. at Copenhagen.

THE well-known Slavonic scholar Mr. W. Morfill, of Oriel College, Oxford, has been appointed Reader of the Slav Languages to the University.

THE genuineness of the Tell-el-Amarna tablets is doubted by M. Renan, who said lately in the Académie des Inscriptions that despatches addressed by Canaanitic governors in Palestine to a King of Egypt in Babylonian characters and language seem to be very suspicious.

THE Trustees of the British Museum have lately acquired a collection of Korean books which possesses considerable interest and importance. The books, which are contained in over a hundred volumes, consist mainly of Korean editions of the Chinese classics, of native historical works, and of novels. Hitherto specimens of Korean literature have only rarely reached this country, and this is therefore the first collection of any size which has ever been imported.

MR. FOGERTY, the author of 'Robert Leeman's Daughters,' has made arrangements to reissue his previous novels in a more popular style, and 'Countess Irene,' the first volume of the new edition, will be published in about a month by Messrs. Virtue & Co.

A NEW society, under the name of the "British Record Society," is proposed for the purpose of continuing the work of Mr.



Phillimore's "Index Library," which, since it started in January, 1888, has supplied about 220,000 record references. A meeting of the subscribers to the "Index Library" to organize the proposed society will be held in the course of a few days.

MR. C. J. CLAY will issue in a few weeks the text of the Syriac version of the 'Life and Travels of Alexander the Great,' by Pseudo-Callisthenes, edited with an English translation by Mr. E. A. Wallis Budge. The text has been edited from three MSS. in the British Museum and the libraries of the German and American Oriental Societies, and from two careful modern copies of the work made at Urmia and Mosul. This edition will also contain a brief sketch of the principal Oriental versions of the Alexander story, a short glossary of the unusual Syriac words, English and Syriac indexes, &c. It may be added that the Syndics of the Pitt Press made a special purchase of a fount of Nestorian Syriac type for the printing of the work.

THE thirty-fourth general meeting of the Society for Psychical Research was held on Friday afternoon, October 25th, at the Westminster Town Hall. The president (Prof. Sidgwick) gave an account of the International Congress of Experimental Psychology held in Paris last August. The congress had adopted the scheme of a census of hallucinations already set on foot by the S.P.R. in England, France, and the United States, and it was hoped that the collection of statistics might gradually be extended to other European countries.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Railways, Share and Loan Capital, Report for 1888 (3d.); Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, Report for 1888-9 (1s. 9d.); and Savings Banks, Returns for 1888 (1s. 1d.).

## SCIENCE

*A Vertebrate Fauna of the Outer Hebrides.* By J. A. Harvie-Brown and T. E. Buckley. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

IT was with pleasure that, on April 21st, 1888, we spoke favourably of 'The Fauna of Sutherland, Caithness,' &c., by the above authors; but the present work, while on the same lines, is a distinct improvement on its predecessor. This time the tasteful medal-lioned title-page, from the gifted pencil of Mr. J. G. Millais, represents groups of mammals instead of birds; and an excellent map, charts of little-known islands, illustrations from photographs or sketches, and clear bold type are again highly creditable to the publisher. It is, however, in the descriptions of the wilder islands and their denizens that the principal charm will be found by the scientific naturalist, for not every one who wills it can go to some of the outlying groups and skerries any more than to Corinth; and although the ownership of a yacht undoubtedly facilitates matters, some pluck and much perseverance are required for the exploration of the Monach and Flannan isles, the Haskeir Rocks, North Ronay, and Sulisgeir or North Barray; while even the Shiant is not always easy of access. The principal island of the St. Kilda group is now visited by

steamer-loads of excursionists, though owing to the frequent fogs few tourists have seen the magnificent jagged outlines of Boreray and other fragments of this great extinct volcano, while fewer still have landed on any of these, or done more than hurry to the top of Connachar, gaze over the edge at the fulmars, and race back to the loudly-whistling steamer, rolling in the surge of the exposed bay. Probably the only person who knows St. Kilda thoroughly (except the natives) is Mr. Henry Evans, to whose investigations we are indebted for the account of the capture of the last British example of the great auk. This took place in the month of July, and about the year 1840, on Stack-an-Armin, a rock haunted by gannets which slopes till nearly half way up (where there is a small hut) and has grass upon it; and there the unfortunate bird was kept alive, with its legs tied together, for three days, when a storm that arose caused its captors to think it was a witch, whereupon they stoned it to death, flung the body behind the bothy, and left it there. At least 2000 would easily be obtained for such a specimen at the present day.

Owing to circumstances, the principal share in the exploration of the Outer Hebrides has fallen to Mr. Harvie-Brown, who has been in the habit of visiting the Western Isles since the year 1870, and has paid continuous attention to the mammals and birds of that group. His extensive observations have been supplemented by the experiences of others, notably Col. Feilden and Mr. John Swinburne; and in 1887 a crowning scientific expedition was made in the yacht *Shiantelle*, resulting in an account of the general geological features of the group by Prof. Heddle, a fine series of photographs by Mr. Norrie, and much additional information. On this occasion Sulisgeir was visited: a desolate rock, inhabited by more gannets than are to be found on the Bass Rock and Ailsa Craig together, and covered to the very edges of the precipices with wonderful tussocks of seapink, which often develop single stems like tree-ferns, while their roots and the earth they have gathered bind together the great, loose, weathered slabs and boulders which strew the whole upper surface. The men from Ness had recently paid their annual visit for eggs and birds, and round the huts which serve for refuge lay innumerable gannets' heads, while close to the landing a wretched half-starved sheep was observed, as well as the bones of another. North Ronay, however, "carries" some few scores of sheep in excellent condition, some of which are almost annually stolen by passing vessels; and in the summer of 1885 not only live stock, but also tea, sugar, and other provisions were taken from a closed store by some Grimsby fishermen, who, we are glad to say, were subsequently captured in their homes, dragged back to Stornoway, tried, and imprisoned. The accounts given of the earlier history of these and other islands show that from time to time they were inhabited by human beings, though now almost abandoned to seals and sea-birds; and the descriptions of the arrival of the unwonted visitors are fascinating reading. As regards the fauna of the Outer Hebrides, about thirty pages are devoted to mammals, and some interesting facts are

given respecting red deer. The antlers of the stags are well formed, but rather small, as might be expected where the area is circumscribed; on the other hand, the goats, which have been introduced and have run wild in Harris, exhibit a fine development in head, and four-horned sheep are to be met with on several farms in that island as well as in North Uist. A coloured plate is given of a black rat with a white throat-patch, which has been found on one or more islands by Dr. John MacRury, and this has been identified with *Mus hibernicus*, hitherto supposed to be confined to Ireland. The birds occupy about one hundred and thirty pages, inclusive of appendices, while rather more than fifty are devoted to reptiles and fishes. The exigencies of space prevent us from entering into details respecting this portion of a work which is the first complete and systematic treatise that has appeared on the fauna of this interesting group, and for those who are acquainted with the capabilities and previous productions of the authors little recommendation is necessary; but to our other readers we may say that many of the descriptions of scenery and animal life are worthy of the pen of Charles St. John. We believe that Mr. Buckley already enjoys a considerable acquaintance with the Orkneys, and we look forward to a similarly comprehensive and much-needed volume on that group and the Shetlands as a further instalment—though not the last—of the series.

*Land and Fresh-Water Shells.* By J. W. Williams, M.A., D.Sc. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—This neat little volume is a member of "The Young Collector Series," but its aim is higher than that of the mere collector. Many a conchologist is reproached with knowing little or nothing about the structure of the organisms which once tenanted the beautiful objects treasured in his cabinet. Dr. Williams evidently wishes his young readers to become true naturalists, and to that laudable end introduces a sketch of the anatomy and physiology of a snail and of a fresh-water mussel, as types respectively of the gastropods and the lamellibranchs. Then follows a concise description of each British species, while the commonest varieties are mentioned in foot-notes. It would have been useful to the young collector if the author had accentuated the generic and specific names, as is done in Adams's 'Manual.' It should be added that a valuable chapter on the distribution of the British land and fresh-water shells has been contributed by Mr. J. W. Taylor and Mr. W. Denison Roebuck.

## MEDICAL BOOKS.

*The Demon of Dyspepsia; or, Digestion Perfect and Imperfect.* By Adolphus E. Bridger, B.A., M.D. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—The importance of a thorough knowledge of the causes of and remedies for dyspepsia cannot be overrated, but it is a little doubtful whether in the present state of education it is good for the British public to peruse works on this subject. A little knowledge is still a dangerous thing, and those to whom Dr. Bridger's advice is specially addressed, the degenerate and those suffering from functional disorders, are not always the better for pursuing a daily system of close introspection. While we fully agree with the author as to the various influences which affect digestion, and cannot object to his suggestions to defeat them, still we cannot but realize the difficulty there is in this nineteenth century in adopting the mode of living recommended. Those who are prematurely degenerate, the gouty, and the neurotic

have all got to work for their living, and cannot adopt the mode of life best suited for their particular form of delicacy. Much may be done in the early life of the individual; but when he has once commenced the battle of life his own individuality has to be forgotten in the arrangements which seem to suit the majority. Parents will do well to consider what Dr. Bridger says about inheritance in this and other diseases, so that the future life of those committed to their care may be adapted not only to their inclinations, but also to their failings. We cannot agree with all that is said; we cannot think that such a book is good for the indiscriminate perusal of the dyspeptic. But there is much that is suggestive which the medical profession will do well to consider, and from which they will derive benefit in the treatment of their unfortunate patients.

*Heredity: a Study, with Special Reference to Disease.* By R. A. Douglas Lithgow, LL.D. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)—There is no more interesting and instructive subject than this to the philosopher, or the philanthropist, or the physician. Dr. Lithgow has contributed additional and valuable facts; there is much that is very interesting and suggestive in his book; and it is well worth perusal by all. If the medical profession could get more real facts on the subject of heredity, their treatment would be much more successful and rational. Dr. Lithgow has shown the way.

*The Elements of Vital Statistics.* By Arthur Newsholme, M.D. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—Dr. Newsholme supplies a very important want. No one can overestimate the value of vital statistics prepared by an accurate, able, and experienced man like the Medical Officer of Health for Brighton. It is good for a country to know what the effect of overcrowding is upon the population, how the examination mania ruins the health and destroys the originality of the young, and how necessary it is to watch the effects of overwork and constant and rapid travelling in these days of ours. These are practical and intelligible points which can be dealt with advantageously by those whom they may concern, and Dr. Newsholme has tabulated facts which cannot be ignored. We hope that his views on the methods of notification are correct, and they carry with them a feeling of confidence, as they are much more moderately stated than is the custom amongst our sanitary specialists. We trust that the returns will be considered as strictly confidential, otherwise they will inevitably lead to unnecessary discomfort, and sometimes to injustice. If the scheme of compulsory notification proves a success it is to be hoped that the law may be extended to specific diseases, which in the long run do more harm to a nation than all the zymotic diseases, which often "kill off" those who are too delicate to take care of themselves. The book is full of information and interest; it should form the basis of valuable legislation, and in doing good to the country at large it increases our admiration for, and confidence in, the author.

*La Pratique du Massage: Action Physiologique, Emploi Thérapeutique.* Par W. Murrell. Ouvrage traduit par le Dr. O. Jennings. Avec une Introduction par le Dr. Dujardin-Beaumetz. (Paris, Baillière & Fils.)—This is an accurate translation of Dr. Murrell's work on massage, which has already been reviewed by us. We are inclined to think that massage is not so popular as it was a short time ago. There is much good in it; and when it has ceased to be fashionable we shall know its position as a therapeutic.

## GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

*Petermann's Mittheilungen* publishes an interesting paper by Lieut. von Höhnelt, in which the author deals most satisfactorily with the hydrographical problems which have arisen in connexion with the discovery of the Rudolf

Lake by Count Teleki and himself. That lake lies at an elevation of only 1,550 feet above the level of the sea, and is the drainage basin, not only of the Omo, a river rising in Southern Abyssinia, but also of the Baso, supposed to have its source in Lake Harleem, the existence of which was made known by the late Mr. Schouwer. An excellent map accompanies Lieut. von Höhnelt's paper. In the same periodical will be found a topographical and geological account of the valley of Orótava, on Tenerife, with a detailed map, by Dr. A. Rothpelt.

The *Verhandlungen* of the Berlin Geographical Society publishes a preliminary account of Dr. Schweinfurth's recent journey into Yemen. This experienced traveller succeeded in obtaining a very respectable botanical success, and as the inhabitants are hospitable and life is safe, he invites other men of science to follow in his footsteps, promising them a rich harvest of discoveries.

Prof. E. Geleisch in the *Zeitschrift* of the Berlin Geographical Society discusses Capt. Tho. H. Sumner's method of finding a ship's position at sea by projections on a Mercator's chart, and traces its development down to the present time. This simple and useful method of determining latitude, although originated by an American, appears to have met with most attention in France, and its many advantages entitle it to more prominence than has hitherto been conceded to it. The *Zeitschrift* further publishes the data for an "equivalent transversal conical projection" for a map of Africa, which its author, Dr. E. Hammer, shows to possess many advantages over Sanson's projection, which is most generally in use; a paper on the Wanyamuezi, by Paul Reichard; and a splendid map of the whole of Greenland, prepared by Dr. R. Kiepert in illustration of Dr. Nansen's official report.

An interesting map of the route from Keneh, on the Nile, to Berenice, based upon surveys made by Col. R. E. Colston in 1872, will be found in the most recent number of Guido Cora's *Cosmos*.

The annual meeting of the Manchester Geographical Society was held on Monday last. According to the report, which was read by the secretary, the society continues to be carried on successfully and the roll of members is increasing.

The sixth edition of *Hints to Travellers, Scientific and General*, edited for the Council of the Royal Geographical Society by Douglas W. Freshfield and Capt. W. J. L. Wharton, is a substantial improvement upon the preceding edition. The list of contributors is quite formidable, and includes many names of authority. The chapter on surveying and astronomical observations, edited by Mr. John Coles, has been considerably expanded, and contributions have been furnished to it by General J. T. Walker, Col. Sir Charles Wilson, Col. Godwin-Austen, and others. Meteorology and climate are dealt with by Mr. H. F. Blanford, geology by Mr. W. T. Blanford, natural history by Mr. H. W. Bates (who is commendably concise), and anthropology by Mr. E. B. Tylor. Dr. Dobson's medical hints should prove of service even to stay-at-home people. The concluding chapter on "Industry and Commerce," by Mr. J. S. Keltie, is eminently practical. The book now extends to 430 pages (instead of 296 in the fifth edition), and there is a danger of its growing still more bulky when a seventh edition shall be called for. As the great merit of a book of this kind (apart from the information it conveys) consists in its portability, we hope an effort will be made at condensation. This is quite feasible, as even a cursory glance must show that many matters have been introduced which are of no possible use to the traveller or explorer, or even to a resident in foreign parts. Mr. Weller, who drew the map in Mr. Chisholm's 'Handbook of Commercial Geography,' has sent us his original, and we have

much pleasure in acknowledging that he is correct on one of the points chosen for criticism in our favourable review of that work.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Royal Academy, 4.—'Anatomy,' Mr. J. Marshall.  
— Royal Institution, 5.—'General Monthly.'  
— Society of Engineers, 7.—'Modern Engine Practice,' Mr. S. Griffin.  
— Aristotelian, 8.—'What is Logic?' Mr. S. H. Hodgson.  
TUES. Biblical Archaeology, 8.—'The Tree and Fruit represented by the Tappuah of the Hebrew Scriptures,' Rev. W. Houghton.  
— 'Notes on the Accadian Language,' Rev. C. J. Ball; 'Was the Camel known to the Early Egyptians?' Rev. W. Houghton.  
— Zoological, 8½.—'New Indian Lepidoptera, chiefly Heterocera,' Col. C. Swinhoe; 'The Genus *Urothoe* and a New Genus *Urothoides*,' Rev. F. R. Stiebing; 'Birds collected by Mr. Ramage in St. Lucia, West Indies,' Mr. F. L. Slater; 'Relations of the Fat-bodies of the Sauripoda,' Mr. G. W. Butler.  
WED. Entomological, 7.—'Notes on the Entomology of Iceland,' Rev. F. P. Pascoe.  
— Geological, 8.—'Contributions to our Knowledge of the Dinosaurs of the Wealden and the Mesozoic Strata of the Purbeck and the Oxford Clay,' Mr. R. Lydekker; 'Notes on a "Dumb Fault" or "Wash-out" found in the Pleistocene and Tertiary Collieries, Derbyshire,' Mr. J. C. B. Hendy; 'Palaeozoic Ostracoda from North America, Wales, and Ireland,' Prof. T. B. Jones.  
— Shortland, 8.—Inaugural Address by J. G. Petrie, President.  
THURS. Archaeological Institute, 4.—'The Great Sphinx of Egypt, with some Account of the Spread of the Sphinx Idea in the Ancient World,' Mrs. Tirard; 'Sculptures of Oriental Designs at Bradwardine and Moccas, Herefordshire,' Rev. G. I. Chester.  
— Linnean, 8.—'Collection of Dried Plants, chiefly from the Southern Shan States, Upper Burma,' Col. H. Collett and Mr. W. B. Hemslay.  
— Chemical, 8.—'The Isolation of a New Hydrate of Sulphuric Acid existing in Solution,' Mr. S. U. Pickering; 'Further Observations on the Magnetic Rotation of Nitric Acid of Hydrogen Chloride, Bromine, and Iodine in Solution,' Dr. W. R. Perkin; 'Phosphoryl Trichloride,' Messrs. T. E. Thorpe and F. T. Hambley; 'Acetylation of Cellulose,' Messrs. C. F. Cross and E. Bevan; 'Action of Light on Moist Oxygen,' Mr. A. Richardson; 'Anhydrosulphonenebenzyl and the Constitution of *Zinnus lepidus*,' Drs. Japp and Klingemann.  
FRI. New Shakespeare, 8.—'Paper by Mr. W. W. Poel; 'On Shakespeare's "make rope" in "All's Well,"' Dr. Furnivall.  
SAT. Botanic, 8½.—'Election of Fellows.'

## Science Gossip.

SIR ROBERT STAWELL BALL'S new work, entitled 'Star-Land,' will be ready for publication about the end of November.

A STATUE of the famous physicist Ohm is to be erected at Munich. Contributions amounting to about 24,000 marks have been collected in Germany, England, France, Austria, Italy, &c. Should there be a surplus, another monument will be erected in his honour at Erlangen, where he was born upwards of a century ago.

A SMALL binary star, near  $\Sigma$  2091, was discovered by the late Baron Dembowski in 1869. Measures made by Prof. Schiaparelli in 1887 showed that the position angle had then changed by more than  $85^\circ$  since the discovery. Mr. J. E. Gore, of Ballysodare, has recently computed the orbit, and finds (*Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 2923) the period to amount to  $205\frac{1}{2}$  years. The magnitudes of the two component stars are about 8 and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  respectively.

A FRENCH translation of Mr. Lynn's handy little book 'Celestial Motions' will appear by instalments, in the course of next year, in the columns of the *Journal du Ciel*, which is published every fortnight under the editorship of M. Joseph Vinot. When completed the successive portions will be collected into a volume.

## FINE ARTS

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY, the New Gallery, Regent Street.—SECOND EXHIBITION NOW OPEN, 10 to 6.—Admission, 1s.  
WALTER CRANE, President; ERNEST RADFORD, Secretary.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

*The Book of Wedding Days*, illustrated (Longmans & Co.), is a model of taste in its printing, binding, and illustrations. It is dedicated, in some graceful verses by Lord Rosslyn, to the Prince and Princess of Wales, in honour of whose silver wedding in March last it is published. The decorative part has been entrusted to Mr. Walter Crane, and he has supplied an abundance of charming borders enriched with flowers, foliage, groups of birds, *amorini*, quaint armorials, and emblems of love and rejoicing. These designs are uniformly printed in red. The outlines are drawn in Mr. Crane's magisterial mode, with admirable firmness and true sense of style. Among them are capital examples of a fancy which is not only astonishingly varied, but



apparently inexhaustible. In its essence the work belongs to the tribe of birthday books. A space is allotted to every day in the year for writing the names of one's wedded friends, and thus recording the anniversaries of their marriages. To each day are appropriated one or more verses which celebrate happy unions, such as Marlow's "Love me little, love me long," and Mr. Coventry Patmore's "Beauty and joy are hers by right." But the leading feature of the book is the designs of Mr. Crane, and these are so excellent that it is hard to praise them overmuch. For instance, there is a vigorous cavalcade of Cupids who ascend a lofty hill-side towards the rising sun. Their movements are charming. Next to these is a branch laden with apples and frankly drawn with power. Some Cupids building castles in the sand on the seashore are very charming indeed. A "happy couple" departing in a post-chaise, with a Cupid for postillion and cheered by Cupids showering shoes, follows a page enriched with pansies which are tended by an *amorino*. Cupids reaping corn, Cupids gathering cherries, while their comrades pelt with fruit a pinioned urchin, Cupids on tricycles and bicycles, genii diving headlong into the Lake of Love, or playing at lawn tennis or pall mall, or swinging from branches where wondering squirrels cling, or reading love sonnets in a boat, or dancing and flirting amain, or furiously racing in the air mounted on dragon-flies—these are but a few of the subjects of these fine rubrications of the 'Book of Wedding Days.' We like especially the archer Cupids playing on a lawn on the second week in May, and the artist Cupids who, in the first week in May, are daintily touching up their pictures on varnishing day at the Royal Academy, a privilege which, unless we are much mistaken, has never been accorded to Mr. Crane himself; two daintily winged critics make notes before the pictures. On another page in February the god acts as postman and leaves valentines for eager-eyed damsels looking out of window. The Postmaster-General might, for February at least, borrow a hint from Mr. Crane, and adorn his pillar-boxes with laughing Mercuries atip-toe on the summits. A wild rout of Cupids pulling crackers at Christmas concludes the matrimonial year, and leaves us the pleasant duty of commending the book to all whom it may concern.

*E. T. Daniell: a Memoir.* By F. R. Beecheno. (Privately printed.)—Although the Rev. Edward Thomas Daniell was a pupil of J. Crome when that artist was drawing master at the Norwich Grammar School, and seems to have had some haphazard instruction in drawing from J. S. Cotman, who was drawing master at King's College School, Mr. Beecheno has not justified the pains he has been at in preparing this biography and record of trifles. From 1832 Mr. Daniell was an occasional exhibitor in the gallery at Norwich and elsewhere. He was educated for the Church, ordained at Norwich, appointed curate of Banham, near Attleborough, and, later, curate of St. Mark's, North Audley Street, and served as chaplain at St. George's Hospital. A change came over his mind, and he soon left his flocks to other watchers, as we shall see. This is doubtless the most interesting as well as the strangest part in this memoir. He was a sketcher whose views of design were so very comprehensive that, while he admired Linnell and Turner, David Roberts's drawings in Egypt and Palestine so fired his mind with enthusiasm that he set off to travel in the Levant and Egypt. It is hard to understand such extreme liberality of opinion. One would have supposed it would be impossible for an admirer of Turner and Linnell to care much for Roberts. However that may be, while in Smyrna Mr. Daniell encountered the Xanthian Expedition under Mr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Fellows, and he remained with that explorer as a kind of volunteer draughtsman and amateur custodian of antiquities. While employed in this fashion he was rash enough to sleep in the open air at Adalia, was struck down by malaria, and died there

September 24th, 1842. His decease was at the time recorded in this journal. Mr. Daniell made a number of pleasing etchings of landscapes at home and abroad, and sketches in water colours of sites in Syria, Lycia, and Pamphylia; some three score of them are in the British Museum. Between 1837 and 1840 he exhibited four pictures at the Royal Academy, and between 1836 and 1840 an equal number at the British Institution. He did not—a fact Mr. Beecheno has not satisfied himself about—contribute to the latter gallery in 1835, or before. Like Etty he, to his credit, opposed the ignorant meddling of those entrusted with the care of ancient buildings. While Etty was endeavouring to preserve York Minster from the "restorer," Mr. Daniell vainly tried to preserve the keep of Norwich Castle, which the Gaol Committee, notwithstanding the protest of E. Blore, their own architect, decided to convert into a "nest thing," refacing the ancient fortrees with new stone. Daniell enjoyed the friendship of Linnell, Turner, Mulready, Dyce, Stanfield, the Landseers, Eastlake, Prof. Forbes, Sir C. Fellows, and less-known men, but, except of Linnell, there are few traces of these worthies in the pages before us.

*The Parish Church of St. Mary, Whaplode.* By W. E. Foster. (Stock.)—Mr. Foster has compiled an unpretending and very creditable account of this fine old Fenland church, which was originally the property of Crowland Abbey. He suggests that the rivalry between Crowland and its daughter house at Spalding led to the erection of the churches at Whaplode and Moulton in the same district and about the same time. But though Whaplode has "the earliest Norman work in South Holland" (Mr. Foster's illustrations give a good idea of its details), the ambitious monks soon held their hands, and the church was not completed till a later period. The fabric has suffered terribly from neglect and barbarous alterations, partly due, no doubt, to its proportions being too extensive for the requirements of the parish. Mr. Foster has, however, done his best to repair the ravages of time and man, so far as concerns the memorials of the dead, by collecting descriptions of such as have disappeared. As is too often the case, "at the present time, there are but few of the monuments and slabs that were in the church prior to its restoration." A useful description of the parish registers is given (they commenced in 1559), but we think Mr. Foster may be too hasty in asserting that the signature "Wm. Holden, Vicar, 1558-1641," is "evidently wrong," as it surely refers to the vicar's attestation to the transcript of the registers for that period. An unfortunate curate who worked the parish for its non-resident vicar two generations ago brought up "a large family" on 100*l.* a year under troubled circumstances, certain "scavengers of pandemonium," according to an entry in the registers, having treated him to an "infernal explosion," while another parishioner "dextrously" pursued him with a horsewhip. A most careful list of the vicars from 1238 has been compiled by Mr. Foster, and the churchwardens, overseers, &c., are recorded with equal diligence; while the hearth-tax return of 1665 is given *in extenso*. The author has, therefore, done useful work, and such books if more common would greatly lighten the labours of future county historians.

#### MINOR EXHIBITIONS.

LAST Saturday was a day of private views. Four galleries opened their doors, and there were considerably more than five hundred pictures to see. There was the exhibition of the 19th Century Art Society; French and Dutch paintings were on view at Messrs. Dowdeswell's rooms; and Messrs. A. Tooth & Sons and Mr. T. McLean also opened their doors. The latter two exhibitions, although their contents are miscellaneous, are the most important,

and are worth visiting. At Mr. McLean's the clear tones, silveriness, and harmonious colours of Mr. McWhirter's *Autumn Evening, Arran* (No. 2), will be found attractive, despite its excess of pigment and slight execution.—Mr. Lorimer's *Roses* (3), a lady and a young girl on an old oak staircase, is a capital exercise in rosy white and rich brown.—The *Cairene Carpet Warehouse* (5) of Mr. C. Wilda shows modern German painting at its best. It is distinguished by richness of colour and tone and a firm mode of handling; but its hardness and opacity are artificial, and it shows more skill than sympathy with fine art or fresh conception of its subject.—Success usually provokes imitation; still Mr. J. W. Godward ought to have known better than to paint a sham Tadema like *An Ezedra* (6).—The *curés* of M. V. Chevilliard are always amusing. His *Critical Moment* (10), a *curé* drilling his choir and *suisses*, is full of fun and character, and is marked by those firm and deft touches which distinguish M. Chevilliard's art. Still the surface, light, shade, and colour are a little metallic and heavy.—A charming sketch of *A Royal Stag at Fontainebleau* (12) we owe to Mlle. R. Bonheur, whose happy colouring, breadth of effect, fine feeling for air, and sincere love of nature it displays.—A great contrast to this is Mr. E. Long's pseudo-Greek effort called *Choosing a Deity* (13), young Greeks in the smoothest of paint selecting statuettes in a sculptor's shop. Weak and featureless, the design assorts well with the flimsy and feeble execution.—Very pretty is the design of Mr. Marcus Stone's *The Return* (14), the sentiment of which is exactly what we expect from him, who never did better nor was more ambitious. It is a little painty.

A fairly good example of small size, called *On the Banks of the River* (15), represents Corot's later art, and delights us with its restful harmonies of tone and colours in low keys; it is instinct with the reposeful pathos of silvery twilight.—Sir John Millais's *Afternoon Tea* (19) can hardly be called a masterpiece; nor, although it has been reduced in size, and otherwise much altered since we described it at length many months ago, has it been improved. The charms—we wish there were more of them—of this picture lie in the beauty and eager expression of the little one who faces us, and some fine and original colour. The execution is rather loose, not to say rough, and the brilliancy of the work is due to its contrasts rather than to its harmonies of tones and tints.—Mr. Hook's *Sea Pools, Arran* (20)—two bare-legged damsels at the edge of an inlet left bare among rocks thickly covered with weeds, one of them daintily holding her skirt between her knees, while the other stoops to draw sea-weed to the shore—is a picture of 1880, and possesses nearly every fine element of his art. The sea tints are lovely; the sky could hardly be better.—The *Naughty Boy* (29) of Signor S. Novo might, at some distance, pass for a work of M. de Blaas; it is otherwise spirited and natural.—With the full colouring and glowing light of dawn at the highest pitch upon a tempestuous sea, and even with somewhat rough brush-work, Mr. H. Moore wins admiration for *Fresh Morning off the Isle of Wight* (32).—Heer van Beers's smooth surfaces and sparkling coloration, and his deft and dainty touches, are as profoundly antithetical to the technique of his English neighbour as the voluptuous suggestions and abandon of *An Interlude in the Dance* (40) are to the robust subject and masculine inspiration of Mr. Moore's picture. The Dutch artist has chosen for his theme the olive-gold of the flesh of an Egyptian dancing girl seen through a black tissue and adorned with gold ornaments. She reclines upon a yellowish buff carpet.—Other good pictures are Mr. McWhirter's *Silver Birches, Arran* (8), a hackneyed subject; Mr. E. Ellis's *On the Coast of North Wales* (22); Mr. E. Croft's military study, *The Return from Moscow* (38); and M. C. Delort's *Return of the Exile* (48).

Messrs. Tooth & Sons have hung more pictures than their neighbour, but they have not so many good ones. We hardly like Sir F. Leighton's *Greek Girls playing at Ball* (6) so much as when we saw it at the Academy; and though M. Jacquet's *For the Bal Masqué* (4) and *Mignon* (7) deserve attention on account of the reputation of the artist, we cannot place them among his best works.—But two views in Venice by M. Pasini, crisply painted and bright (12 and 13), should not escape the visitor because they are small; and Mr. Logsdail's *Workaday Venice* (17), a sketch of the seamy side of the Queen of the Adriatic, made with force, if with a heavy hand and loaded brushes, has an evidently sardonic inspiration. It is vigorous, and has good, if some crude colour. Why does not the artist cultivate a more refined, if not less robust technique than this?—*An Audience* (10), by M. Tito Lessi, a gallery at Versailles, is a sparkling picture, solid, firm, and deftly handled; its lighting, splendour of mirrors and gilding, and aerial perspective are first rate. The groups of courtiers saluting the king are spirited.—*La Chasseresse* (29) is worthy of M. Jacquet in its crispness, finish, and brilliancy, but the brocaded petticoat of the damsel seated in a wood, although a conspicuous point in the picture, is rather cold in its colour and hard in handling. The *Queen of Hearts* (33), by the same, though a little hard, is bright and delicately handled.

A leading attraction of this collection is one of the smallest, M. Meissonier's *Le Liseur* (31), seated in his dressing-gown at a table covered with a green cloth. Everything from this artist's hands commands the attentive study of critics. This little gem is less laboured, perhaps a little freer and more lightly touched, than usual, but it lacks nothing the painter's intense insight into character and amazing skill can impart. The effect and coloration are more brilliant than in most Meissoniers and combined with greater breadth.—*Les Bibliophiles* (32) of M. Kémény sustains with rare success the test of being hung next a Meissonier, yet it is a little slaty in colour and hard. Its figures are first rate, and the stereoscopic character of the whole testifies to its solidity, just light and shade, and researchful finish.—Two landscapes by Mr. H. W. B. Davis, *A Summer Afternoon in Arran* (48) and *The Golden Time ere Gloaming Comes* (61), are delicate small versions of pictures we are glad to recognize.—Few designers of pathetic genre tell a story better in a melodramatic way, or paint it with more spirit and *chic*, than Mr. S. E. Waller. This he shows in the *White Cockade* (73), where a young lady decks her lover going to the wars; but the workmanship is thinner and slighter than usual.

Another leading picture here is M. Bouguereau's *First Whisper of Love* (77), in which it is easy to recognize his exquisite draughtsmanship and delicate surfaces and his choice flesh-painting, which affects a marble-like, very pure morbidez, and is combined with intensely refined ideal types of form and expression. Notwithstanding all that can be alleged against its excessively academical character—a good fault, if a fault at all—the more we study his works the more we appreciate their noble scholarship, beautiful faces, refinement, and statue-like graces. This, although not one of the most ambitious instances of his art, is nearly as good as any of them. A Greek virgin, dressed in white, is seated in a glade, and is absorbed in a day-dream which has transported her to the paradise of Love while a beautiful *amorino* whispers in her ear. In this respect, but no other, the charming example resembles the artist's *Venus Anadyomene*.—Near No. 77 hangs the President's *Sibyl* (82) of the last Academy.—Close by is a tenderly coloured and harmonious *Harvest Time on the Medway* (88), by Mr. W. L. Wyllie, a charming piece of aerial perspective.—To the above let us add Heer H. Ten Kate's *Arrest of a Spanish Spy* (47), M. L. Lhermitte's

*Haytime* (83) and *Returning from the Fields* (93), Poole's *"Forget me Not!"* (98), Mr. P. Graham's clever but mannered *Mountain Torrent* (104), N. Madrazo's *The Finishing Touch* (113), M. de Blaas's *Saltarella* (133)—a group of his strapping Venetian damsels in a courtyard of the city, which is able, but not up to his mark—and two Corots, called *A Village Street* (136) and *A View in Italy* (137).

## NOTES FROM ATHENS.

British School, Athens, October, 1889.

IN the July number of the official *Δελτίον* 'Αρχαιολογικόν several interesting discoveries are announced. We cannot for the present expect many more of the startling finds that have been so frequent of late years, but smaller indications, if carefully studied, may often lead to results no less important.

In the later walls and gateways round the west end of the Acropolis, now completely demolished, several inscriptions have been found, some of them of topographical importance. One is an interesting dedication to Aphrodite of the sixth century; another consists of some portions of an architectural member, in the form of an architrave, but once resting on a wall, not on columns. (These details, and most others, are from Dr. Lolling's description.) On this is an inscription, apparently recording a dedication to Aphrodite by the people of the statues of the priests and priestesses of a certain family. It belongs to the fourth century B.C. These were both found among the walls south of the "Beulé" gate, and, though not *in situ*, had probably not been moved far from their original position. They may be added to those already found in this neighbourhood from the same precinct.

Two other inscriptions belong to the neighbouring shrine of Demeter Chloë. One of these had been copied by Chandler, and built in since his time; the other is new, and records that Isidolus, in accordance with a dream, dedicated a statue, *τήν* (did he not mean *ἡν*?) *Κουροτρόφον*, to Demeter Chloë and Cora. Thus we have some topographical indications, though not, of course, very definite ones. Another inscription from the same walls is in honour of a Claudius Illyrius, who, as Dr. Lolling points out, is probably identical with the musician or poet Illyrius, who is said in an inscription to have fortified Athens as Amphion fortified Thebes, with his lyre. In the new inscriptions more details as to name and family are given, and these have enabled Prof. Mommsen to assign his date to the third century of our era; and thus he may be connected with the repairs of the fortifications of the city and Acropolis under Valerian, when the "Beulé gate" was probably erected.

In the same number of the *Δελτίον* M. Dragatsis discusses a very curious marble disc with a painted portrait of a bearded man seated in a chair; this was confiscated in the Piræus last April (see *Athen.*, No. 3214). It was intended to be hung on a wall. But its chief importance lies in the archaic inscription *Μνήμα τῷδε Αἰνέον σοφίας ἰατροῦ ὁρίστον*. The name is not a common one, and an *Ἄνιος* is recorded by Stephanus of Byzantium to have been a member of the well-known family of Aesclepiads of Cos and great-uncle of the famous Hippocrates. If we here possess, as M. Dragatsis contends with great probability, a contemporary portrait, this representation of *Ἄνιος* is a very interesting one. E. A. G.

## Fitz-Gri Gossig.

AN art publication of much interest is about to be issued by Messrs. Bousod, Valadon & Co. in memory of the late Edward Lear. It is to consist of a series of twenty-six facsimiles by the Goupilgravure process from drawings by the artist, exclusive of head- and tail-pieces,

together with a reproduction of the portrait of his friend Lord Tennyson by Mr. Watts, now in South Kensington Museum. The pictures will be accompanied, by way of text, with a beautiful reprint of three of the Laureate's poems—the lines 'To E. L. [Edward Lear] on his Travels in Greece,' 'The Daisy,' and 'The Palace of Art.' Lord Tennyson has taken a particular interest in the publication, and in order to enhance its value has added his autograph signature to each copy. Only a hundred copies in all have been printed, and it is understood that the whole edition has been subscribed for.

MR. HOOK will probably be represented at the Academy next year by at least three pictures of West-country subjects and brilliant effects.

MR. WOOLNER has just finished a bust—declared by the subject's friends to be an excellent likeness, and by artists to be a fine work of art—of Principal Harrison, of Allahabad.

IN Room XII. of the National Gallery, and numbered 1294, has lately been hung a small picture, the generous gift of Mr. Humphry Ward, entitled 'An Allegorical Subject.' A man stands before an altar, on the top of which are a globe, two crowns (one lying on its side), and several documents. He is laureated, and wears a bright breastplate, while a long, richly embroidered robe falls straight from his shoulders. His left hand being turned slightly forward, as if to call attention to his action, he holds in his right hand a sceptre with its point resting on the globe. On the floor in front of the altar lies a confused heap of arms and armour. At the back of the altar hangs a white and yellow banner. The light, coming from the top on our left of the design, falls on the globe and figure with a striking Rembrandtish effect. The picture is by Willem van den Poorter, of Haarlem, where he belonged to the Guild of Painters. He is known to have worked from 1635 to 1645. There are pictures of his, including a copy of a Rembrandt, which is at the Hague; Cassel (No. 511, the 'Crucifixion'); at Berlin ('Samson and Delilah'), Copenhagen, Brussels, and Dresden. 'An Allegory' of his is at Rotterdam, while its pendant is at Brunswick, and shows motives not unlike those of Mr. Ward's gift to the nation. His signature was "W. D. P.," and works ascribed to him are rather rare. We know of none in England till now.

THE death of Mr. Arthur Stocks, son of Mr. Lumb Stocks, is announced as having occurred on the 12th ult. Our readers will remember his capital picture at the Academy this year showing a girl introducing her lover with "A friend of mine, grandfather." To the same exhibition he contributed 'The Sands of Time.' He was born in London April 9th, 1846, and educated at the Islington Proprietary School, where Mr. Hook was a pupil years before. Intended for an engraver, he became a pupil of his father; later, he entered the Royal Academy, and made a good mark in its schools. In 1866 he sent 'Twas a Famous Victory' to the Suffolk Street exhibition, his first appearance. In 1867 his 'Christmas Upstairs' and 'The Expected Letter' were at the Academy, to which exhibition he became a very frequent contributor, sending, among other works, 'A Review at Chelsea,' 'Mending the Old Cradle,' 'The Best of Husbands,' 'Her Last Sacrament,' 'Sermon Time,' 'At Last,' and 'In Memory,' besides other less interesting examples; some others were at the British Institution, the Dudley Gallery, and the Institute of Painters in Oil Colours exhibitions, where we have often admired their spirit, intelligence, and brightness.

M. HENRI BEAUREPAIRE, an antiquary of Dijon, has addressed to the *Courrier de l'Art* an explanation—founded on the authority of the 'Description Historique des Principaux Monuments de l'Abbaye de Cîteaux,' tome ix. of the 'Histoire de l'Académie Royale des In-



scriptions'—of the original positions of the eight weepers and the armorials of some of them which belong to the very noble and picturesque tomb of the Seigneur Philippe Pot, lately removed from Dijon, its historic site and proper place, to a sculpture gallery of the Louvre. It appears that the weepers were (as every one informed in such matters knew those statues must have been) originally grouped about the principal effigy in that which was not only an historic, but a genealogic sequence, and each with his escutcheon attached to him. A modern owner of the monument, unaware of this, and, perhaps, reckless of the *ordonnance* of the work, displaced and mismatched some of the objects, and thus seriously injured their significance. M. Beaufort, being a better herald than art critic, says: "C'est assurément une des conceptions funéraires les plus saisissantes du Moyen-Age, mais les figures des pleureurs paraissent un peu courtes, un peu entassées." He errs in awarding this monument to the Middle Ages. Fine it is, but not mediæval in its style or type of thought. It was erected during the lifetime of the lord whom it commemorated in the first half of the sixteenth century.

Mr. D. C. THOMSON, who has nearly completed his task of the last three years, the preparation of a volume which deals with the Barbizon school of painters, will be glad to receive information concerning the immediate effect of the exhibition in the Paris Salon of 1824 of Constable's 'Hay Wain,' from which event landscape painting in France, as it flourished in the hands of Corot, Rousseau, Diaz, and Daubigny, is well known to have sprung. Mr. Thomson's publishers are Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

THE treatise by Mr. Joseph Pennell, the American etcher, on 'Pen Drawing,' which has been in preparation for some time, is to be published by Messrs. Macmillan. It will contain over 150 illustrations. The edition is limited to 1,000 copies, 500 of which go to the States.

TURKEY is taking as much trouble to prevent the exportation of antiquities as Italy and Greece. The Customs authorities have stopped, according to the *Tarık*, a number of antiquities from Panderma, Aidinlik, and Ermenkeue in the baggage of the manager of the Boracite mines at Karasu. As permission for excavation is now required, the authorities are able to deal with objects surreptitiously exported. Those in question are said to be of great value, but this may be doubted.

THE Argentine authorities have announced a competition for the designing and execution of a statue of Cambaceres to be erected at Buenos Ayres. A quarter of a million of francs is offered for the work, which is to include the pedestal and the statue. Sketches are to be sent to the Argentine authorities on or before the 30th of December next, and the decision of the judges will be given on the 30th of March following.

At the sale of the collection of M. Michel Lévy, which occurred at the Hôtel Drouot last month, Corot's 'Le Matin' realized 10,000 fr., and his 'Femme au Repos,' 8,000 fr.

ACCORDING to the French papers the Madrid Gallery has lately received, as a gift from the Duchess Dowager de Pastrana, 225 pictures, among which are said to be Van Dycks, Rubenses, Tenierses, Mengses, and other fine works.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Señor Sarasate's Concerts. The Popular Concerts.  
ALBERT HALL.—Royal Choral Society.

EXCEPT for the performance of a quintet at one of Mr. Dannreuther's Musical Even-

ings five years ago, the compositions of Dr. Bernhard Scholz were entirely unknown in this country until Saturday last. This is somewhat surprising as he is certainly not an obscure musician, and he has written much in various styles. Among his efforts are five operas, a Requiem, two cantatas, one being a setting of Schiller's 'Das Lied von der Glocke,' various smaller works, and the Symphony in B flat, Op. 60, performed last Saturday at the Crystal Palace. In 1883 he succeeded Raff as principal of the Frankfurt Conservatorium, but previously he was conductor of an orchestral society in Breslau for twelve years, and on leaving that place the University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In gratitude for this honour he dedicated the symphony now under consideration to the University, and doubtless endeavoured to infuse as much learning as possible into the work. The able writer of the analysis in last Saturday's programme describes the first movement as "a masterpiece of construction." For this reason to attempt any detailed notice of it without the aid of quotations in music type would be futile. Music so full of polyphonic devices cannot be fully grasped at a first hearing, and we shall therefore also refrain from passing judgment upon it until another occasion. The slow movement is conceived in the same spirit; but in the *scherzo* and *finale* a less academic style is adopted, and these two movements proved by far the most pleasing on Saturday. Dr. Scholz's symphony is a noteworthy composition, and is worthy of a place in the Crystal Palace programmes from time to time. Of the rest of the concert there is little to be said. Señor Albeniz played Schumann's Pianoforte Concerto, a work for which he seems to have a special liking, although it does not suit him. The overtures were Beethoven's 'Coriolan' and Mendelssohn's 'Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage'; and Mlle. Gambogi was the vocalist.

The principal feature of interest to musicians at Señor Sarasate's concert last Saturday was the first performance in London of Dr. Mackenzie's 'Pibroch' Suite, although the infusion of Wagner's music in the programme partly accounted for the extraordinary interest of the general public. It may be said at once that the beauties of Dr. Mackenzie's work were far more apparent at the second hearing than at Leeds. This is particularly the case with regard to the "Rhapsody," which is not singular, as the music is utterly formless, and therefore not easy to follow at first. The melody is continuous, though two or three of the phrases attain prominence owing to their deep expressiveness, and the characteristics of Scottish music are introduced in exactly the right proportion, never becoming obtrusive. The variations which follow, and the concluding "Dance" in three-four time, are exceedingly brilliant and clever, but as the principal themes are not original they cannot be regarded from so high a standpoint as the first movement. At the lowest estimate, however, the suite must be considered equal to Max Bruch's 'Scotch' Fantasia, with which it has something in common. The playing of Señor Sarasate in this work and in Raff's interesting Suite in G minor was marvellous in a technical sense. He

may be a virtuoso, but he is a virtuoso in whom the artistic impulse is so strong that admiration for his unique gifts as an executant need not be mingled with any less pleasant feeling. To mention the principal orchestral items is to condemn them. One was Bach's great Organ Fugue in G minor, which was preceded by a Prelude—not the magnificent Fantasia which is attached to the work—and a Choral by Abert, a Bohemian composer, now Kapellmeister at Stuttgart. The Choral reappears in the fugue, and is so heavily orchestrated that the splendid counterpoint is entirely smothered. What excuse can be made for vandalism of this nature it is difficult to say. Less worthy of blame, but still unjustifiable, was the performance of "Wotan's Abschied und das Feuerzauber" from 'Die Walküre,' without a vocalist, and without a word of explanation as to the existence of a vocal part in the original score. It may be said in excuse that the public is not particular as to these matters, and the fact may be sadly admitted; but offenders are not thereby exonerated. The concert was conducted by Mr. W. G. Cousins.

A somewhat tame commencement was made of the Popular Concerts on Monday, the only work of importance in the programme being Dvorák's Quartet in E, Op. 80, mentioned last week. We noticed the work on the occasion of the performance at Sir Charles Halle's concerts last June, and perceive no reason to modify the opinions then expressed. It is impossible to regard the quartet as one of the Bohemian composer's most inspired utterances, the second movement, *andante con moto*, being alone in his best style, although the rest are in a certain sense characteristic of him. The usual economy of thematic material may be noted, but the developments are more laboured and less suggestive of spontaneity than in Dvorák's finest works. Extremely well played by the four artists who usually open the season, namely, Madame Néruda, Herr L. Ries, Herr Straus, and Signor Piatti, the quartet was received with favour, though scarcely with enthusiasm. Madame Haas, the pianist of the evening, was not heard to advantage either in Brahms's Rhapsodie in B minor, Op. 79, No. 1, or Chopin's Nocturne in B Major, Op. 9, No. 3. The rendering of the one lacked breadth of style, and of the other tenderness and poetic feeling. Very few pianists are satisfactory exponents of Chopin, and the prominence now given to his music at these concerts is to be deprecated. Rüst's uninteresting Violin Sonata in D minor, and Chopin's Introduction and Polonaise Brillante in C for piano and violoncello, Op. 3, completed the instrumental selections. Miss Liza Lehmann rendered songs by James Hook, Emmerich, and Meyer Helmund in her most charming manner.

The Royal Choral Society commenced its work for the season on Wednesday evening with a performance of Berlioz's 'Faust.' Mr. Barnby's choir, into which a few members of the Novello Choir have been drafted, sang the choral numbers as finely as ever, the quality of tone and purity of intonation being as remarkable as the perfect precision and homogeneity of the large force. No better choral singing could be desired.

Some of the more delicate orchestration, of course, suffers at the Albert Hall, but Mr. Barnby pays more heed to this department than he did a few years ago, and on Wednesday the instrumental numbers were, on the whole, well played. Madame Albani as Marguerite, and Mr. Henschel as Mephistopheles, repeated embodiments too familiar to need criticism. The part of Faust was essayed by Mr. Iver McKay with a measure of success which should encourage him to yet higher efforts. His voice told, and he sang with earnestness and intelligence.

### Musical Gossip.

A MORE eclectic spirit than usual is noticeable in the direction of the Paris Conservatoire concerts. Among the works announced for performance this season are Bach's Mass in E minor or the St. Matthew Passion, Handel's 'Ode on St. Cecilia's Day' or 'Acis and Galatea,' and the third act of 'Die Meistersinger.'

GRIEG's latest work, 'Olaf Trygvason,' has been produced under the composer's direction at Christiania. It consists of a setting of three scenes from an unfinished drama by Björnson, in which the plot deals with the efforts of King Olaf to convert the Norwegian people to Christianity, and their passionate appeals to the ancient deities to manifest their powers. The principal characters are a priest and a sibyl, and there is important work for the chorus. The music is said to be rather brusque and highly coloured, as befits the illustration of a rude period in Scandinavian history. In January Herr Grieg will make his first appearance in Paris, and will afterwards come to London.

HERR RUBINSTEIN's jubilee performances will be held at St. Petersburg on November 30th and the following day. In a musical sense the production of the great virtuoso's new opera 'Gorionsha' (!) will be the most important feature of the undertaking. Rubinstein has also just finished his oratorio in eight parts, 'Moses,' and has published a Concert-stück for piano and orchestra, Op. 113.

SIGNOR FACCIO has definitely declined to accept the office of principal of the Conservatorium at Parma, rendered vacant by the death of Signor Bottesini.

A COMPETITION of choral and orchestral societies will be held on a large scale at Geneva in August next year. Foreign societies will be permitted to compete, and it is hoped that, if the conditions are favourable, England will be represented on the occasion.

THE Vienna Hellmesberger Quartet is about to celebrate the completion of the fortieth year of its existence, and about the same time will give its three hundredth concert.

THE Queen of Roumania (Carmen Sylva) has written a book of poems for music entitled 'Songs on the Sea,' which are to be set by August Bungert. She is now at work upon the libretto of an opera.

LAST week we announced that Siegfried Wagner has entered as a student at the Frankfort Conservatorium. It is now said that Frau Wagner will shortly place the direction of the Bayreuth theatre in his hands. As he is only eighteen years of age, this statement should be received with caution.

A MUSICAL paper has appeared in New Zealand under the title of the *New Zealand Musical Monthly*.

ACCORDING to the *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* M. Gounod has undertaken to direct a series of performances of his own works in St. Petersburg and Moscow during the coming winter.

CONCERTS NEXT WEEK.	
MON.	Royal Academy of Music, Chamber Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Mr. Freeman Thomas's Benefit Concert, 7, Covent Garden Theatre.
—	Mr. Kuhe's Concert, 8, Albert Hall.
WED.	Popular Concert, 8.30, St. James's Hall.
—	Mr. Hann's First Chamber Concert, 8, Brixton Hall.
SAT.	Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Crystal Palace Concert, 3.

### DRAMA

M. ÉMILE AUGIER.

DURING his life of close upon seventy years Émile Augier experienced most forms of literary triumph. For his election to a chair at the Académie, indeed, he had to wait, that distinction being, after many applications, conceded him in 1858; but the Legion of Honour was given him in 1850, eight years later he received the grade of Officer, and in 1868 that of Commander. In 1870, while the French empire was in the throes of dissolution, he was made a Senator. Guillaume Victor Émile Augier was born at Valence, the 17th of September, 1820, and was intended for the Bar. He was the grandson of Pigault-Lebrun, the romance writer, whose memory he defended in the preface to his first published work, 'La Ciguë.' This elegant little piece, offered by him to the Comédie Française, and refused almost unanimously by the committee, obtained in 1844 at the Odéon a success which opened to the author the doors of all the Parisian theatres. Its triumph has been chronicled in striking words by Théophile Gautier in a chapter of his 'L'Art Dramatique,' iii. 192-6, in which 'La Ciguë' is compared with 'Timon of Athens.'

In the works which immediately followed Augier appeared as a rival of Ponsard, and, in a sense, as a follower of Scribe. The family was the object of his special admiration, and he prized the administration of poetical justice. Not until the appearance of 'La Dame aux Camélias' did he come under the influence of M. Alexandre Dumas fils. 'Un Homme de Bien,' a study in the line of 'Tartuffe,' appeared at the Comédie Française in November, 1845, and was followed, at the same house, by 'L'Aventurière,' which some years later underwent great modification. 'Gabrielle,' a four-act comedy, given at the same house in 1849, was the author's most signal success in this line of work. In 1850 he produced 'Le Joueur de Flûte,' 'Diane,' written for Rachel and acted by her, was seen in 1852, and in 1853 'La Pierre de Touche,' written in conjunction with Jules Sandeau, and 'Philiberte.' With 'Le Mariage d'Olympe' (Vaudeville, 1855) a new order of compositions began. 'Le Gendre de M. Poirier,' written with Jules Sandeau, and 'Ceinture Dorée,' 'La Jeunesse,' and 'Les Lionnes Pauvres' followed in rapid succession. The last-named piece, written in conjunction with Édouard Fournier, alarmed the censure, and was only allowed to be acted at the intercession of Prince Napoléon. In 1861 'Les Effrontés' was given at the Théâtre Français, in 1862 'Le Fils de Giboyer,' and in 1864 'Maitre Guérin.' 'La Contagion' was withdrawn from the Comédie Française in consequence of unavoidable delay, and acted by MM. Got, Berton, and Brindeau, and Madame Doche of that establishment at the Odéon by superior authority, 17th of March, 1866. At the Théâtre Français came 'Paul Forestier,' 1868; 'Le Post-Scriptum' and 'Lions et Renards,' 1869; and 'Jean Thommeray,' 1873. 'Madame Caverlet' was played at the Vaudeville in 1876; 'Le Prix Martin' (written with M. Labiche) at the Palais Royal, and 'Les Fourchambault' at the Théâtre Français, 8th April, 1878. Augier was also associated with Sandeau and Alfred de Musset in 'La Chasse au Roman' and 'L'Habit Vert,' and wrote the libretto for M. Gounod's 'Sapho.' He is responsible for a volume of verse, which includes 'Les Méprises de l'Amour,' an unacted comedy in verse. Augier died on the 25th ult. at his house at Croissy on the Quai des Écluses, of diabetes complicated by injuries received in a fall.

### Dramatic Gossip.

IBSEN's vogue seems spreading through all parts of the world. A Dutch translation of 'The Wild Duck,' one of the least known of Ibsen's plays, has been acted this week in Amsterdam and in the Hague. A Russian version of 'The Pillars of Society' is appearing on the stage of one of the St. Petersburg theatres. 'The Doll's House,' 'Ghosts,' and 'The Young Men's League' are all being played in different cities of Germany. An English version of 'The Lady from the Sea' will be published by Mr. Fisher Unwin next week, and we hear of more than one translation of 'Rosmersholm' as ready to appear. Finally, there is a rumour of a complete edition of Ibsen's works, to be published first in New York, under the joint supervision of Mr. Archer and Mr. Gosse.

'A PROMISE,' a one-act comedy by Mr. S. Boyle Lawrence, which has been added to the bill at the Globe Theatre, tells sympathetically a story of self-sacrifice on the part of a youth who yields up to his friend the woman he loves. As the heroine is not disposed to look too favourably upon his suit, his surrender is less heroic than it appears. Miss Harriet Ford, an actress from America, was not girlish enough as the heroine. Mr. Fuller Mellich played satisfactorily and with some warmth of style. Miss S. Vaughan and Mr. Hickman were also concerned in the interpretation. The piece was received with much favour.

It is anticipated that Mr. Thorne will reopen the Vaudeville with a version, by Mr. Robert Buchanan, of 'Clarissa Harlowe.' Richardson's masterpiece seems even more difficult of management than the 'Tom Jones' of Fielding, with which Mr. Buchanan obtained a fair amount of success. A tragedy entitled 'Clarissa,' taken from Richardson by Robert Porret, was published in octavo in 1788, but did not find its way on to the stage. Subsequent adaptations have been seen in England and in France.

'HER OWN WITNESS,' a new comedy, is to be given on Wednesday afternoon next by Mr. Ben Greet at the Criterion.

THE Princess's will, it is understood, reopen during the present month with the 'Gold Crazee,' a new drama by Mr. Brandon Thomas. The cast is not yet settled, but engagements have been offered to Misses Fanny Brough and Amy Roselle, Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Cartwright.

MRS. LANGTRY has finally secured the St. James's Theatre for the coming year. Mr. Arthur Bouchier, one of the latest recruits from the amateur stage, will support her. A series of subscription nights, in course of which Mrs. Langtry will play some classic comedies, is said to be in contemplation.

A ONE-ACT comedy by Mr. B. C. Stephenson, entitled 'Faithful James,' has been produced with success by Mr. Rutland Barrington at the Turnham Green Vestry Hall, and will, it is believed, shortly be given at a more recognized home of dramatic entertainment.

THE Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen, who translated last year Schiller's 'Fiesco' into modern Greek, has achieved the same feat with Lessing's tragedy 'Emilia Galotti.' The play was to have been published at Athens during the week of the prince's arrival there.

GERMAN papers report that the playwright Rudolf Hahn, author of 173 pieces, has just died at Schöneberg, at the age of seventy-four, in straitened circumstances. His dramatic trifle 'Im Vorzimmer Seiner Excellenz' is still popular in Germany.

THE death is announced of Mr. R. Z. S. Troughton, author of a tragedy called 'Nina Sforza,' acted at Covent Garden under Macready, in which Miss Faucit took a part.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. D.—T. A. S. B.—W. M.—W. B.—E. v. D.—R. C.—C. W.—E. G. K.—S. C.—H. H.—S.—received.

E. J.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.



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